Appointed To Serve

Shawn Jeffries · Acts 6:1–7

INTRODUCTION

- The book of Acts also tells us about problems. It also tells us about problems in the church.
- Seven spiritually qualified men were appointed by the church. They were appointed to serve by the church.
- Many people in the church today see deacons as nothing more than maintenance men.

1 Deacons Are Servants

Matthew 20:28; 1 Peter 4:10; 1 Timothy 3:8–12

- That word deacon that Paul uses in Philippians 1 and verse one comes from the Greek word diakonos and diakonos means servant. It means minister.
- Jesus says just as the son of man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.
- He is telling us here that he's not just the chief shepherd. He's also the chief deacon.
- As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.
- We all should be diakonos. We all should be servants, ministers, helpers, attendants in the body of Christ.
- He's using this word to talk about men who've been appointed to an office.

2 Deacons Are Over a Specific Work

Acts 6:3

- Select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task.
- That language shows us that deacons are appointed by the church and they have assigned task.
- They're not just men floating around wearing the title of a deacon.
- They have authority over the work they've been assigned. They have authority to make decisions in regards to their work.
- By these seven men being over this work, the apostles were freed up.
- They are under the oversight of our shepherds and they make sure that those kind of works are accomplished so that shepherds can shepherd and preachers can preach.

3 Work Critical to the Growth of a Local Church

Acts 6:1; Acts 6:7

- First, that was a physical problem. There were physical needs in that church.
- It wasn't just a physical problem. It also was a spiritual problem.

- The appointment of these special servants helped put that fire out.
- The word of God kept on spreading and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem.
- By these men fulfilling this physical need in the church, the devil was crippled.
- Because of their work, we have a comfortable building to worship God in.

THE CHALLENGE

Be mindful, be encouraging, be inspired by their service. And then finally, please make sure you're always praying. Always pray for them.

MY NOTES