Deacons – Their Important Work

Robert Harkrider · 1 Timothy 3:8–13

INTRODUCTION

- As elders of this flock, I've been asked to present to you the fact that we want to set before you the names of men to be added to our list of men who serve as deacons of this congregation.
- We have met with four different men and their wives, and we consider them to be qualified.
- I want you to notice, though, as we talk about deacons, they have a special and a very important work.

1 What Is a Deacon?

Philippians 1:1; Matthew 23:11; Mark 10:43

- What, therefore, is a deacon? Or who is a deacon? Are you a deacon?
- The word deacon rightly comes from a Greek word, diaconos.
- Simply the simplest definition, literally means a servant, an attendant.
- He said to the saints in Christ Jesus, with the bishops and deacons. In that passage, we really see the organization of a local congregation.

2 In the General Sense, We All Are Servants

John 12:26

- If anyone serves me, Jesus said, let him follow me, and where I am, there my servant will be also.
- You probably never think of yourself as a deacon, but in the general sense of the word, I would hope all of us.
- In the general sense, we all are ministers. We all are servants.
- It may not be seen by others and praised by others, but the Lord knows. And your action makes this congregation a healthy congregation and a good congregation.

3 Men Over This Business: Serving Tables

Acts 6:1–6

- It is not desirable that we should leave the Word of God and serve tables.
- Seek out from among yourselves, seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.
- They are not described specifically as deacons, but they simply exemplify what it seems to be the work of a deacon, a special servant in a local congregation.
- Elders are certainly not equivalent to apostles, yet they have a responsibility with the Word of God as shepherds, as overseers, to feed the flock of God, to watch for your souls.

4 What Do the Deacons Do Among Us?

- Those who are in special need of benevolence, come first to a couple of our deacons, and they're the ones who sort out and will assist and help in a special way.
- Who orders workbooks for our classrooms?
- Who is it that provides the roster for who's going to serve the Lord's table?
- They are activities that you might say under the classification of serving tables, that indeed enables us to function as a family of God.

5 Here Is What a Deacon Must Be

1 Timothy 3:8–12; Matthew 9:16–17; 1 Timothy 6:10

- Every one of us, ought to stop and think, does this describe a faithful Christian?
- Deacons must be worthy of respect. They must be men of dignity.
- It means that when they speak, you can count on their word.
- They know why they believe, what they believe, and can give you an answer for it.
- Blameless doesn't mean perfect without any fault.

6 A Good Standing and Great Boldness in the Faith

1 Timothy 3:13

- Men who work and serve as deacons have a good standing in the eyes of the Lord.
- There's not a better feeling or a sense of joy than to know your work for the Lord who gave Himself for you.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **What's first place in your life? And if it's not serving the Lord, then why not make a change?**

MY NOTES