

Sermon Title: Deacons: Model Servants

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The Impact of Deacon Ministry (Acts 6.1-7)

Acts 6.3: "... pick out from among you seven men of **good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom**, whom we will appoint to this duty."

Acts 6.7: "And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith."

Wisdom Required (to cut the chaos)

Wisdom is the _____ of knowledge to practical living. It's the ability to judge correctly and to follow the best course of action, based on knowledge and understanding. Knowledge can exist without wisdom, but not the other way around.

Supplied by the Spirit (1 Cor. 2.12-13)

Character Qualities (1 Tim. 3.8-13)

- Deacons are _____ with a capital 'S'

NOT because they're to do all the work, but because they're to model service for everyone else.

- Deacons are to _____ spiritual virtue.

What Kind of Person is God Looking for in Spiritual Leadership? (1 Sam. 16.7b)

<p>_____ Character (v.8)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. "must be dignified" (v.8a)2. "not double-tongued" (v.8b)3. "not addicted to much wine"(v.8c)4. "not greedy for dishonest gain" (v.8d)	<p>_____ Life (vv.9-10,12)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Deacons must have a good handle on the Good News. (v.9)2. Deacons must exemplify Christian service. (v.10a)3. Deacons must not be subject to negative accusation. (v.10b)4. Deacons must be able to lead their family well. (v.12)
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_____ Deacons (v.11) "Their wives also ..."

A Servant's Reward "For those who serve well as deacons ..." (v.13)

Questions for discussion for House Churches, Triads and Devotions

- 1) What is the primary reason for deacon ministry according to Acts 6?
- 2) What role does wisdom play in knowing how to serve?
- 3) Read 1 Timothy 3.8-13. Why does Paul focus on character instead of giving a to-do list for deacons?
- 4) Why are the character qualities of a deacon applicable to every Christian?

Fill-in answers: application, Servants, model, Personal, Spiritual, Women