

COME AND TAKE IT: Dedicated Deacons

1 TIMOTHY 3:8-15

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■ Central Church

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■ Social Media: #DedicatedDeacons

A High Impact Church Deploys Dedicated Deacons

1. Concede Elders Alone are not Sufficient (8, 14-15).

2. Categorize All Believers as Servants (8).

3. Commission Some Believers to Official Service (8-13).

1 Timothy 3:8-15

⁸Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. ⁹They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. ¹⁰And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. ¹¹Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. ¹²Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. ¹³For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

¹⁴I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that, ¹⁵if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth. (ESV)

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APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. What is the role of a deacon in the Church? How would having this role actively functioning help a growing ministry, both in Bible times and today? What is the biblical difference between an Elder and Deacon?
2. **Read Romans 16:1.** Why should we consider every Christian a “servant” or deacon? Is there this biblical understanding in other places throughout God’s Word?
3. How will you engage in this season as we move towards commissioning people to serve in the office of Deacon?

Quote for the Week. . .

by Jim Elliff



What may we observe about deacons in Acts 6:1-7?

1. *Their work was practical in nature.*
2. *Their name also denotes the practical nature of their work. They are servants. But practical work is spiritual work when done for Christ and the kingdom.*
3. *Their objective was to relieve the elders (originally the apostles) for the ministry of the Word, prayer, and oversight of the church.*
4. *They were to be accountable to the Elders (“whom we may put in charge”).*
5. *Their work was assigned and was not related to decision-making for the church as a whole.*
6. *Some deacons were also gifted in other areas of ministry and were at liberty to use their gifts. Stephen and Phillip, for instance, were deacons who also had other gifting. As deacons, however, they functioned in a practical way. Deacons are not limited to practical service, but must be engaged in practical service to be deacons.*

Jim Elliff, The Function of Deacons, Christian Communicators Worldwide, www.CCWtoday.org.