

Ministry Team Training #1

Nov 13th 2025

First Question: What kind of leaders should a local church have?

Definitions given for service:

- a. Someone that always meets the needs or tries to meet the need
- b. They know who to call that would serve in the same way
- c. Willing to put someone else's needs ahead of their own

Difference between elders and deacons:

1. Oversight and Operations

2. Pastoral and Practical

Definitions given for deacons:

- a. High powered men of the church, a higher standard than the rest of the members
- b. Doers—heads up practical
- c. Leader of a certain division of what needs to be done in the church, that person is a big person that influences people on their team as far as delegation

Servant—29 times in the NT

To Serve—36 times in the NT

- 1. Deacon=someone who serves Christ by serving others
- 2. Deacon=an officeholder in the local church
- 3. A deacon is a doer
 - a. Deacons give elders the freedom to focus on the work of shepherding/oversight

Philippians 1:1 —Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:

diakonos has a broader meaning (servant) and a narrower meaning (deacon)

Though every deacon is a servant, not every servant is a deacon

Questions for discussion:

How do you see Jesus being a perfect leader?

- a. Josh—better servant than he could be, even as forgiving
- b. Skip—he went to the cross and served everyone. Christ took the responsibility for all of us—He led by example. Shows them how to be by doing it Himself
- c. Steve—Jesus knew his crowd well. He knew who they were, He knew how to get through to people
- d. Donna—He knew them even when they didn't know Him. He prayed all night before He chose His disciples. This is a great challenge for all of us.

How might Jesus' model of leadership discourage you?

- a. Skip—he feels this way every time. He never feels good enough. He's not worthy, but it's not about what he can do, it's about his usefulness as a tool.
- b. Josh—He can simply say that he's already been put in positions where he hesitates to answer, he can feel bad about not following through in what Jesus calls Him to.

Why do people hesitate?

- a. people try to plan their own ways and do it their own way
- b. we don't want to make mistakes in front of people. You're afraid of what you're going to do about it. You want their approval. You want them to respect you.

Self-interested leadership (pages 18-19)

Imagine yourself walking into a room full of people from your church. Some of them you know pretty well; others you don't know well at all. You've been asked to lead the gathering—perhaps it's a small group discussion, leadership meeting, or volunteer training. Someone introduces you, saying, "Everyone, this is _____; he/she is one of our new deacons here at Christ Church. Everyone turns to give you their attention.

Questions:

In that moment, what do you desire from these people? (page 19)

Possible answers:

Please listen to me

Please notice me

Please respect me

Please don't notice me

Please respond to me

Please take me seriously

Please approve of me

Please don't take me seriously

Please affirm me