



# Holy Living *in the* Household *of* God

(1 Timothy 3:8-13, pg. 1052)

## **CHURCH LEADERSHIP: DEACONS**



**IX** 9Marks BUILDING HEALTHY CHURCHES

# DEACONS

HOW THEY  
SERVE AND  
STRENGTHEN  
THE CHURCH



**MATT SMETHURST**

# PAUL'S VISION FOR THE DEACONS

ASSISTING THE  
ELDERS WITH  
THE CARE OF  
GOD'S CHURCH

ALEXANDER STRAUCH

# **1) DEACONS, SERVANTS, MINISTERS**



**<sup>8</sup>Deacons, likewise...**

Whoever wants to become great among you will be your *deacon*, and whoever wants to be first among you will be a slave to all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be *deaconed*, but to *deacon*, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Mark 10:43-45



For who is greater, the one at the table or the one *deacons*? Isn't it the one at the table? But I am among you as the one who *deacons*.

Luke 22:27

I have become its *deacon*, according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known

Colossians 1:25

If you point these things out to the brothers and sisters, you will be a good *deacon* of Christ Jesus, nourished by the words of the faith and the good teaching that you have followed.

1 Timothy 4:6

**1) ELDERS (1-7)**

**2) DEACONS (8-13)**

**3) PAUL'S PURPOSE IN WRITING (14-16)**





**I commend to you our sister Phoebe, who is a servant of the church in Cenchreae.**

**Romans 16:1**

**Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus:  
To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in  
Philippi, including the overseers and deacons.**

**Philippians 1:1**

**"Therefore, appoint for yourselves bishops and deacons worthy of the Lord, men meek, and not lovers of money, 1 Timothy 3:4 and truthful and proven; for they also render to you the service of prophets and teachers."**

**Didache: 15**

**"Accordingly, I judged it all the more necessary to find out what the truth was by torturing two female slaves who were called deaconesses. But I discovered nothing else but depraved, excessive superstition."**

**Pliny the Younger**



**1) DEACONS, SERVANTS,  
MINISTERS**

**2) A FAITHFUL  
DEACON IS...**



**<sup>8</sup>Deacons, likewise, should be worthy of respect, not hypocritical, not drinking a lot of wine, not greedy for money, <sup>9</sup>holding the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. <sup>10</sup>They must also be tested first; if they prove blameless, then they can serve as deacons.**

**<sup>11</sup>Wives, likewise, should be worthy of respect, not slanderers, self-controlled, faithful in everything. <sup>12</sup>Deacons are to be husbands of one wife, managing their children and their own households competently. <sup>13</sup>For those who have served well as deacons acquire a good standing for themselves and great boldness in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.**



**(1) The women who are part of the general order of deacons**

**(2) They are female deacons or deaconesses who correspond somehow to the male deacons**

**(3) They are "assistants to deacons" like the praiseworthy widows (1 Tim 5:9–10) and older women who train the younger (Titus 2:3–5)**

**(4) They are the deacons' wives**

**Dan Doriani**

**1) DEACONS, SERVANTS,  
MINISTERS**

**2) A FAITHFUL  
DEACON IS...**

**3) WHAT'S THE  
DIFFERENCE?**



**Elders serve by leading  
Deacons lead by serving**



**Deacons are NOT:**

**1) Elders in training**

**2) General contractors**

**3) CPAs**

**4) CEOs**

**5) "No" guys**



In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

Acts 6:1-4

**This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.**

**So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.**

**Acts 6:5-7**





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