

TRUTH BIBLE CHURCH



FOLLOWERS OF JESUS SEEKING TO...

LOVE GOD SUPREMELY

Matthew 22:37-38 ³⁷ And He said to him, "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND." ³⁸ "This is the great and foremost commandment.

SERVE PEOPLE SINCERELY

Matthew 22:39 ³⁹ "The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.'

John 13:34-35 ³⁴ "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. ³⁵ "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

REACH THE LOST URGENTLY

Matthew 28:19-20 ¹⁹ "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Acts 6:1-7

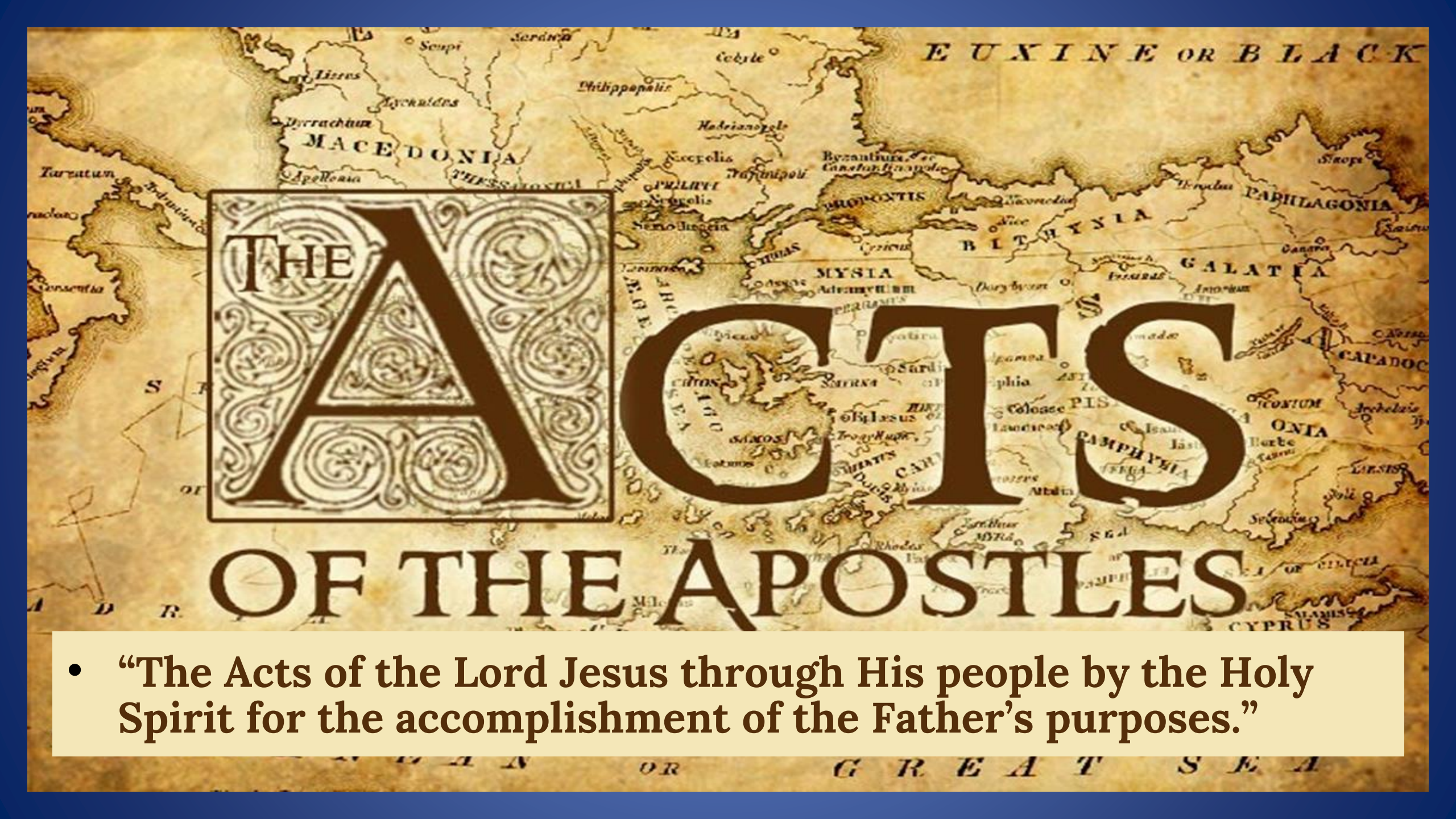
Now at this time while the disciples were increasing *in number*, a complaint arose on the part of the Hellenistic *Jews* against the *native* Hebrews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily serving *of food*.² So the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables."³ "Therefore, brethren, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task."⁴ "But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."



Acts 6:1-7

⁵ The statement found approval with the whole congregation; and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch. ⁶ And these they brought before the apostles; and after praying, they laid their hands on them. ⁷ The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith.





THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

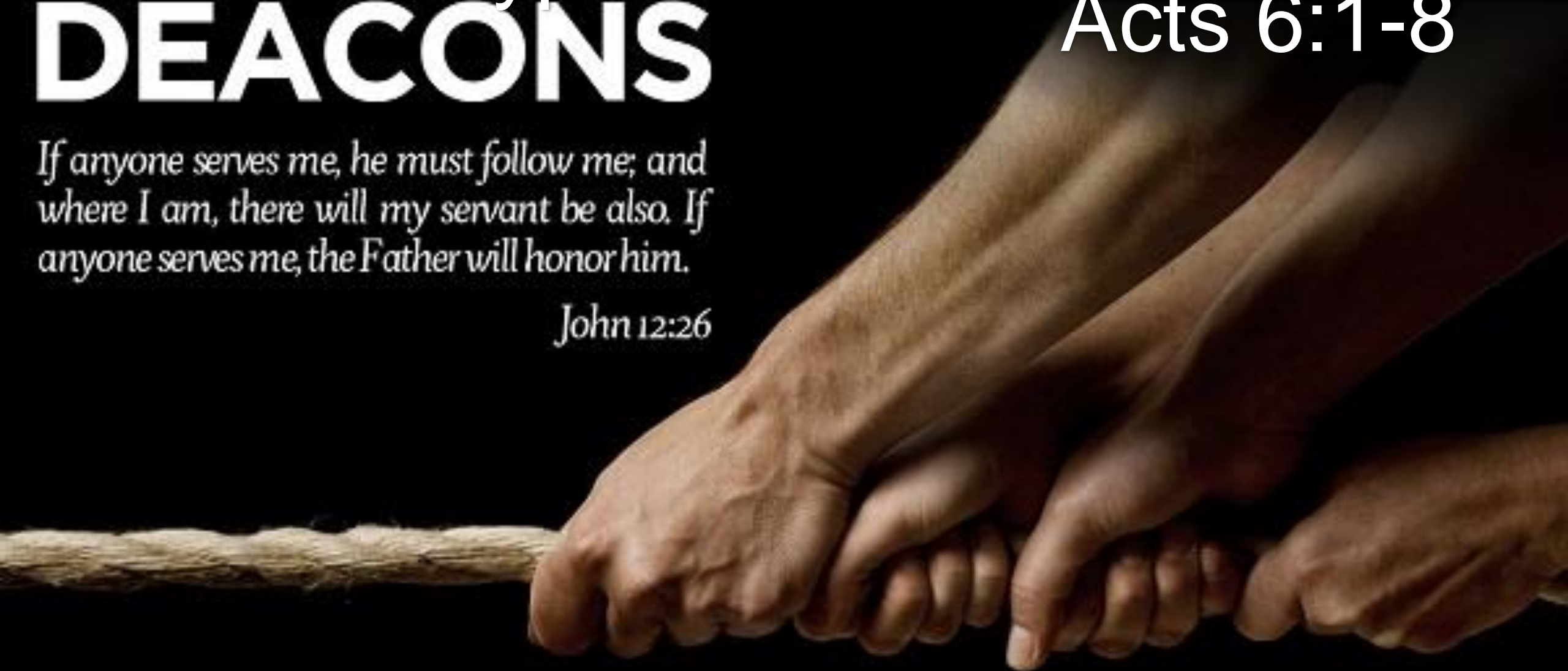
- “The Acts of the Lord Jesus through his people by the Holy Spirit for the accomplishment of the Father’s purposes.”

The Prototype **DEACONS**

Acts 6:1-8

If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

John 12:26



Acts 6:1-8 Translation/Transliteration

Ἐν δὲ ταῖς ἡμέραις ταύταις πληθυνόντων τῶν μαθητῶν

in now the days these was multiplying the disciples

ἐγένετο γογγυσμὸς τῶν Ἑλληνιστῶν πρὸς τοὺς Ἑβραίους, ὅτι

there became grumbling/murmuring the Hellenist (Gentile Christians) towards the Hebrews that
muttering/complaining (Jewish Christians) because

παρεθεωροῦντο ἐν τῇ διακονίᾳ τῇ καθημερινῇ αἱ χῆραι

overlooked/neglected in the service/ministry the daily the widow

αὐτῶν. ² προσκαλεσάμενοι δὲ οἱ δώδεκα τὸ πλῆθος τῶν

of them having summoned but the twelve the multitude of the

μαθητῶν εἶπαν· οὐκ ἄρεστόν ἐστιν ἡμᾶς καταλείψαντας τὸν

disciples said not pleasing/desireable to us having left the

Acts 6:1-8 Translation/Transliteration

λόγον τοῦ θεοῦ διακονεῖν τραπέζαις. ³ ἐπισκέψασθε δέ,

word of the God to serve tables you all shall see to it/select but

ἀδελφοί, ἄνδρας ἐξ ὑμῶν μαρτυρουμένους ἑπτὰ, πλήρεις

brothers men from/out of you all witnessing/testifying seven full

πνεύματος καὶ σοφίας, οὓς καταστήσομεν ἐπὶ τῆς χρείας

of the spirit and wisdom which we will set over the need

ταύτης, ⁴ ἡμεῖς δὲ τῇ προσευχῇ καὶ τῇ διακονίᾳ τοῦ λόγου

of these we but the prayer and the service of the Word

προσκαρτερήσομεν. ⁵ καὶ ἤρεσεν ὁ λόγος ἐνώπιον παντὸς

we will continue and pleased the word before everyone/all

Acts 6:1-8 Translation/Transliteration

τοῦ πλήθους καὶ ἐξελέξαντο Στέφανον, ἄνδρα πλήρης

of the multitude and they choose Stephanon a man full

πίστεως καὶ πνεύματος ἁγίου, καὶ Φίλιππον καὶ Πρόχορον

of faith and (the) of spirit holy and Philippon and Prochoron

καὶ Νικάνορα καὶ Τίμωνα καὶ Παρμενᾶν καὶ Νικόλαον

and Nikanora and Timona and Parmenan and Nikolaon

προσήλυτον Ἀντιοχέα, ⁶ οὓς ἔστησαν ἐνώπιον τῶν

a proselyte/convert (from) Antioch which causing to stand before the

ἀποστόλων, καὶ προσευξάμενοι ἐπέθηκαν αὐτοῖς τὰς χεῖρας.

apostles and having prayed they laid on them the hands

Acts 6:1-8 Translation/Transliteration

⁷ Καὶ ὁ λόγος τοῦ θεοῦ ηὔξανεν καὶ ἐπληθύνετο ὁ ἀριθμὸς
and the Word of the God grew/increased and multiply the number
τῶν μαθητῶν ἐν Ἱερουσαλήμ σφόδρα, πολὺς τε ὄχλος τῶν
of the disciples in Jerusalem exceedingly many and a crowd of the
ἱερέων ὑπήκουον τῇ πίστει. ⁸ Στέφανος δὲ πλήρης χάριτος
priests became obedient (to) the faith. Stephanos but full of grace
καὶ δυνάμεως ἐποίει τέρατα καὶ σημεῖα μεγάλα ἐν τῷ λαῷ.
and power he was doing wonders and signs great among the people.

Literal Translation/Transliteration of Acts 6:1-8

Now in these days the disciples were multiplying (and) there became grumbling (from) the Hellenists towards the Hebrews because their widows were overlooked in the daily service. But the twelve having summoned the multitude of the disciples they said “It is not desirable for us having left the word of the God to serve tables. But you all shall see to it brothers men from out of you all testifying seven full of the spirit and wisdom which we will set over the need of these. But we will continue (in) the prayer and the service of the Word. And the word pleased before/with everyone of the multitude and they chose Stephen a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, which causing to stand before the Apostles and having prayed they laid on them the hands. And the Word of God grew and multiplied greatly the number of the disciples in Jerusalem. (And) many from the crowd of the priests became obedient (to) the faith. But Stephen was full of grace and grower and was doing wonders and great signs among the people.

Sermon Outline:

Acts 6:1-8 teaches us 7 Biblical Principles regarding:

1. How to biblically handle **complaints** in the church
(conflict resolution/problem solving/reconciliation of relationships)
2. How to biblically **lead** the church
(Biblical roles of Elders and Deacons and the Members of the Congregation)
3. How to biblically **take care** of the physical needs of our people
(benevolence/practically helping and encouraging others)
4. How to biblically **select** new church leaders (prototype Deacons)
5. How to biblically **grow** as a church (God's Will for Church Growth)
6. How to biblically **reach** even the most resistant people (religious but not saved)
7. How to biblically **serve** and **imitate** godly & powerful men (Ex. Stephen)

1. How to biblically handle **complaints** in the church

(conflict resolution/problem solving)

Acts 6:1 Now at this time while the disciples were increasing *in number*, a complaint arose on the part of the Hellenistic *Jews* against the *native* Hebrews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily serving *of food*.

- **Complaint** - γογγυσμός *goggusmos*: a muttering, murmuring (root: γογγύζω *gogguzo*: *to mutter, murmur*)

Verses with this word: Exodus 16:7-9, 12; Numbers 17:20, 25; Ps. Sol. 5:13; 16:11; Isaiah 58:9; John 7:12; Acts 6:1; *Philippians 2:14; 1 *Peter 4:9

- **Philippians 2:14-16** ¹⁴ Do all things without grumbling or disputing; ¹⁵ so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding fast the word of life...
- **1 Peter 4:9** ⁹ Be hospitable to one another without complaint.

1. How to biblically handle **complaints** in the church

(conflict resolution/problem solving)

γογγυσμός *goggusmos*

Meaning: a muttering, murmuring

5 Biblical Ways/Stages to Address Complaints in the Church:

- a. **Colossians 3** it – if preference/non-sin issues...overlook it with grace, forbearance, and love (love covers over/protects not exposes – Prov. 10:12, 1 Peter 4:8)

Colossians 3:12-14 ¹² So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; ¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. ¹⁴ Beyond all these things *put on* love, which is the perfect bond of unity.

1. How to biblically handle **complaints** in the church

(conflict resolution/problem solving)

5 Biblical Ways/Stages to Address Complaints in the Church:

b. Matthew 5-7 it – no matter if a preference or sin issue...**pray about it** and first examine your own heart, motives, and actions from God's perspective and from the other person's viewpoint, but always with a humble attitude to forgive as the Lord has already forgiven us.

Matthew 5:44 ⁴⁴ "But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

Matthew 6:12-15 Pray in this way...¹² 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³ 'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. *For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen .* ¹⁴ "For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ "But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.

Matthew 7:1-5 "Do not judge so that you will not be judged. ² "For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you. ³ "Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴ "Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' and behold, the log is in your own eye? ⁵ "You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.

1. How to biblically handle **complaints** in the church

(conflict resolution/problem solving)

5 Biblical Ways/Stages to Address Complaints in the Church:

c. Romans 12 it – if continues to hinder the relationship - address it by going to the person one to one/privately *before*/without talking about the person or the problem with others in order to pursue the highest level of reconciliation possible by seeking clarification, talking out any miscommunication, and working out any misunderstandings. ***Keep the circle of the problem as small as possible (who is part of the problem and the solution)

Romans 12:10-18 ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; ¹¹ not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; ¹² rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, ¹³ contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation. ¹⁷ Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men.

Matthew 5:23-24 ²³ "Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴ leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering.

1. How to biblically handle complaints in the church

5 Biblical Ways/Stages to Address Complaints in the Church:

d. **Acts 6 it** – if it's a church problem that is hurting the church or those in the church but not necessarily a sin issue by an individual - let the Elders know about it (take any complaints or problems in the church to the Elders so they can address and solve the problem or work on the weakness)

- The Elders should address and fix any problems quickly, in a timely matter
- The Elders obviously met and reached unanimity in how to address and fix the problem (notice they did not ignore, deny or downplay the problem but acknowledged it and quickly worked to fix it)
- The Elders involved/consulted the entire congregation for their collective wisdom in order to arrive at the best solution
- The Elders delegated the action phase to others, the work/service to godly/spiritual men not only to bring about the best solution for the church but also to protect their service/ministry/calling to prioritize prayer and the teaching of the Word
- The delegated authority of the Elders was bestowed only after Elders prayed and established specific SPIRITUAL qualifications/criteria (Ex. Titus 1 / 1 Tim. 3)
- The Elders have the final authority in the church as the decision makers of the church by selecting seven prototype deacons by the laying on of their hands

Acts 6:1-4 Now at this time while the disciples were increasing *in number*, a complaint arose on the part of the Hellenistic Jews against the *native* Hebrews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily serving of food. ² So the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables. ³ "Therefore, brethren, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task. ⁴ "But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

1. How to biblically handle **complaints** in the church

(conflict resolution/problem solving)

5 Biblical Ways/Stages to Address Complaints in the Church:

e. **Matthew 18 it** – if it's an obvious sin issue, confront it, but it must be a clear action against a clear Scripture with clear evidence) follow the 4 steps of Matthew 18:15-17

- Go 1 to 1 to seek their repentance and restoration (protect their reputation)
- Confirm with 2 or 3 witnesses to seek their repentance and restoration (evidence/confirmation)
- Tell it to the church in order for the weight/power of the entire church to urgently call them to repentance with motivation of restoration not repudiation
- Remove them from the church (protect the reputation/holiness of the church) and evangelize them as an unbeliever

Matthew 18:15-17 ¹⁵ "If your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother. ¹⁶ "But if he does not listen *to you*, take one or two more with you, so that BY THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES EVERY FACT MAY BE CONFIRMED. ¹⁷ "If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

James 5:19-20 ¹⁹ My brethren, if any among you strays from the truth and one turns him back, ²⁰ let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Three Front War: The World, The Flesh, The Devil

The War Within

- Battle with ourselves
- Our Flesh vs Our Spirit (Gal. 5:22-25)
- Romans 7:1-25, 8:1-39
- Nothing good dwells in me that is my flesh
- all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.
- Fruits of the Spirit...self-control

The Culture War

- Battle against the world (unbelievers)
- John 15:19,
- 1 John 2:15-17
- The world hates us because it hated Jesus first whom we represent
- Do not love the world or anything in the world...the world and its lusts are passing away

The Spiritual War

- Battle with Satan/Demons
- Heavenly Realms
- Ephesians 6:10-18, 1 Peter 5:8-9
- The evil one pits believers against one another circumstantially
- Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 9 But resist him, firm in your faith

The War of Entropy – everything breaking down towards chaos, confusion, disorder, disfunction...everything breaks and does not stay fixed (2nd Law of Thermodynamics...also known Biblically as the Curse...everything is decaying and dying. Nothing in this fallen, cursed, and sin-filled world is absolutely perfect, 100% satisfying, or meeting our expectations fully (with the exception of God and His Word). We will always be a little bit in want, so that we long and hope for what is perfect, fulfilling, and needs no fixing or improving – God and his Heavenly Abode/Dwelling...until then we will always be longing, hoping, and waiting for our future glorification and final home (Romans 8:18-25, 2 Corinthians 4:7-18, Hebrews 11:13-16)

C₃ O₁ M₃ P₃ L₁ A₁ I₁ N₁

Good Complaining

(Identifying and Fixing Problems, Constructive Feedback, Biblical Correction – motive to build up the person/church)

Vs Bad Complaining

(Gossip, Slander, Murmuring, Critical Spirit – motive to tear down the person/church)



What's
the
plan?

This week I realized I needed to:

1. Write / Print / Distribute the Plan
2. Better Communicate the Plan
(Members of the Congregation)
3. Better Delegate the Plan
(Deacons - Ministry/Team
Leaders, Member-Volunteers)
4. Ensure I and the other TBC
Elders need to Oversee the Plan
well till Accomplished

Who is Going Where?

- Worts 7
- Kahrs 7
- A. Hunt 1
- Bellarose 6
- Burgers 5
- Millers 2
- Simms 4
- Crownus 2
- C. Lairds 6
- Ensminger 5
- Vos 4
- Robin Raybaud 1
- Joe & Jen Hunt 4

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Sumellin 5

J. Hunt im 2

Adams 6

Kyong 1

Esther 1

Trossbach 2

Nymur 5

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A. Lairds 2

Stubbs 10

Marcus & Shannon 3

Hillary 1

Chris Arnold 1

Charlie Richardson 3

Messmers 2

Thompson Dave 5

Pucketts 5

Steve Thompsons 5

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Waites 6

Jim & Chris Jordan 2

Cannons 7

Hankins 2

O'niels 2

Ashley Morgan 7

Mayers 4

Foxes 5

Wilson 8

TRUTH BIBLE CHURCH



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

INTRODUCTION TO THE DOCTRINE, PURPOSE & MINISTRY OF
TRUTH BIBLE CHURCH

Truth Bible Church
California, MD 20619
truthbiblechurch.com

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TBC 2023 Elder Proposed Budget as of 1/28/23

Category	Account	2022 Appr	2022 Actual	2023 Propose	Item Manager	Description(s)	Notes	
Pastoral (2 Full Time, 1 Part Time Pastors)	Housing	\$121,000		\$88,583	Dennis, Deacons	Total of all 3 Pastors' Housing Allowance (4% cost of living increase in 2023)	Not taxable	
	Salary	\$67,000	#####	\$45,500	Dennis, Deacons	Total of 3 Pastors' Salaries (4% cost of living increase in 2023)	Subject to Federal Income Tax	
	Craig's Replacement (Campus Pastor?)		\$ -		\$23,333	Chad, Elders	Goal to hire replacement Pastor by September 2023	
	Moving Expense for New Pastor		\$ -		\$2,000	Chad, Elders	Goal to have replacement Pastor move here by September 2023	
	Health	\$2,100	\$ 209.00	\$1,750	Dennis, Deacons	increase in 2023 but decision to roll over or cut check for any unused in 2021 and 2022 into 2023)	(Health Insurance by State of MD)	
	Ch - Ministry Car/Meals/Meeting	\$12,600	\$ 13,079.69	\$10,500	Dennis, Deacons	Total of 3 Pastors' ministry exp account - increased from 300 to 350/month for inflation (4% increase in 2023)	\$10/hr for 2 hours (6a-8a)	
Staff	Administration/Pastors' Secre	\$12,400	\$ 11,080.00	\$22,500	Chad, Elders	Hillary increased from hours to 16 to 25 hours from 15.50 to 18/hr - 2 wks paid vaca, 2 wks unpaid (2 trips to Panama)		
	Payroll Taxes/Withholding	\$949	\$ 1,487.16	\$1,721	Chad, Elders	Church employer must withhold 15.3% for FICA tax and the church contributor half		
	Set Up Crew (6 workers * 20/Su	\$5,400	\$ 4,085.00	\$5,400	Chad, Elders	Hired young people and others on Sunday morning to help set up (estimated possible 45-47 weeks at half in 2023)	Currently Steven Adams, Worley, Avery, Gabe, Hillary, Allana	
Elders	Elder Retreat	\$700	\$ 651.25	\$700	Chad, Elders	This year with Craig leaving we canceled Gilgal but keeping it in for possible retreat this year with new staff in Fall 2023		
	Leadership Conferences	\$1,600	\$ 828.34	\$1,500	Chad, Elders	Conference Travel, Registration, Rental Car, Housing (Chad and Alden and Dennis going to IABC in St. Louis?)		
	Leadership Resources	\$500	\$ 232.81	\$500	Chad, Elders	Book/Commentaries/Software for Sermon Prep, Elder Training, Teaching Aids		
	Guest Speakers (rev funded)	\$200	\$ 1,700.00	\$500	Chad, Elders	Honorariums for Guest Speakers (1@ \$200)		
Office Location	1st Mortgage (1/2 building)	\$14,400	\$ 14,400.00	\$14,400	Chad, Hillary	1200/mo * 12 for half the building (fellowship hall & garage & yard & sign)		
	1st Mortgage Utilities	\$1,500	\$ 1,698.13	\$1,500	Chad, Hillary	approx. \$210/month electric		
	Internet (Atlantic Broadband)	\$1,600	\$ 1,456.12	\$1,600	Chad, Hillary	Atlantic Broadband - increased to 1200/mo for greater upload speed for times we livestream from Office		
	Phone (Verizon)	\$287	\$ 305.85	\$300	Chad, Hillary	23.78/mo verizon office cell 240561WORD(9673) - is forwarded to Alden's Cell		
	Cleaning Equipment	\$250	\$ 30.74	\$250	Chad, Hillary	We have less cleaning carts now that HVFD includes cleaning in the cart - Hillary cleaning office location weekly		
	Cleaning Supplies	\$250	\$ -	\$250	Chad, Hillary	We may want to consider paying for cleaning services at some point		
	Construction/Maintenance	\$10,000	1928.26	\$0	Elders, Deacons	Last year we did construct Craig's office, no new construction of maint. Expected if		
	New Building Construction	\$25,000	\$ -	\$0	Elders, Deacons	Line item if we decided to buy modular or tent for Office Location		
Worship Location	Hollywood Firehouse Rental	\$47,790	\$ 38,215.44	\$16,710	Elders, Jarh, Facility Deacons	1061.54/per Sunday rental with 7 exclusion Sundays in 2022 (50K/yr for the Hall + Hureman + extra 1000 for Aux room) 1700/Sunday starting Feb-July 2023, 1500/Sunday if we do August-December	We just signed 6 month contract - 1700/Sunday, March 12, April 2, 23, May 7, July 9 exclusion, received 5000 option and 500 damage back, no damage now, 30 day notice to early terminate with no penalty, just heard price is 500 off for 501 e3 but going up to 2000/Sunday	
	KCA			\$40,000		estimate based on 60K/year for all day Sunday use (but can prepare lower)		
	Vintage Value Rental		\$ -	\$0	Elders, Jarh, Facility Deacons	\$586/mo (10sqft plus 1000 area a month for taxes)		
	VV Construction (walls, carpet, bathrooms,		\$ -	\$0	Elders, Jarh, Facility Deacons	Walls, carpet, bathrooms, sign		
	VV Utilities		\$ -	\$0	Jarh, Facility Deacons	Utility estimate for VV		
	VV Cleaning (Deacons)		\$ -	\$0	Jarh, Facility Deacons	Cleaning carts at VV		
	VV Grounds (Deacons) (mowing)		\$ -	\$0	Jarh, Facility Deacons	Mowing and grounds expenses at VV		
	Furnishings/Decorations (cha	\$500	\$ -	\$0	Jarh, Facility Deacons	D6 car at VV		
Liability Insurance	\$1,300	\$ 1,576.78	\$1,600	Alden, Hillary	This has increased to cover increased liability at the HFVD + office and will need updating if we change locations (Guidance Mutual Insurance)			



Truth Bible Church Ministry Handbook

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PREACHING/TEACHING MINISTRY

Elder Oversight: Chad Laird

Leader(s): Chad Laird

Co-Leader: Dennis Richardson, Calvin Holston

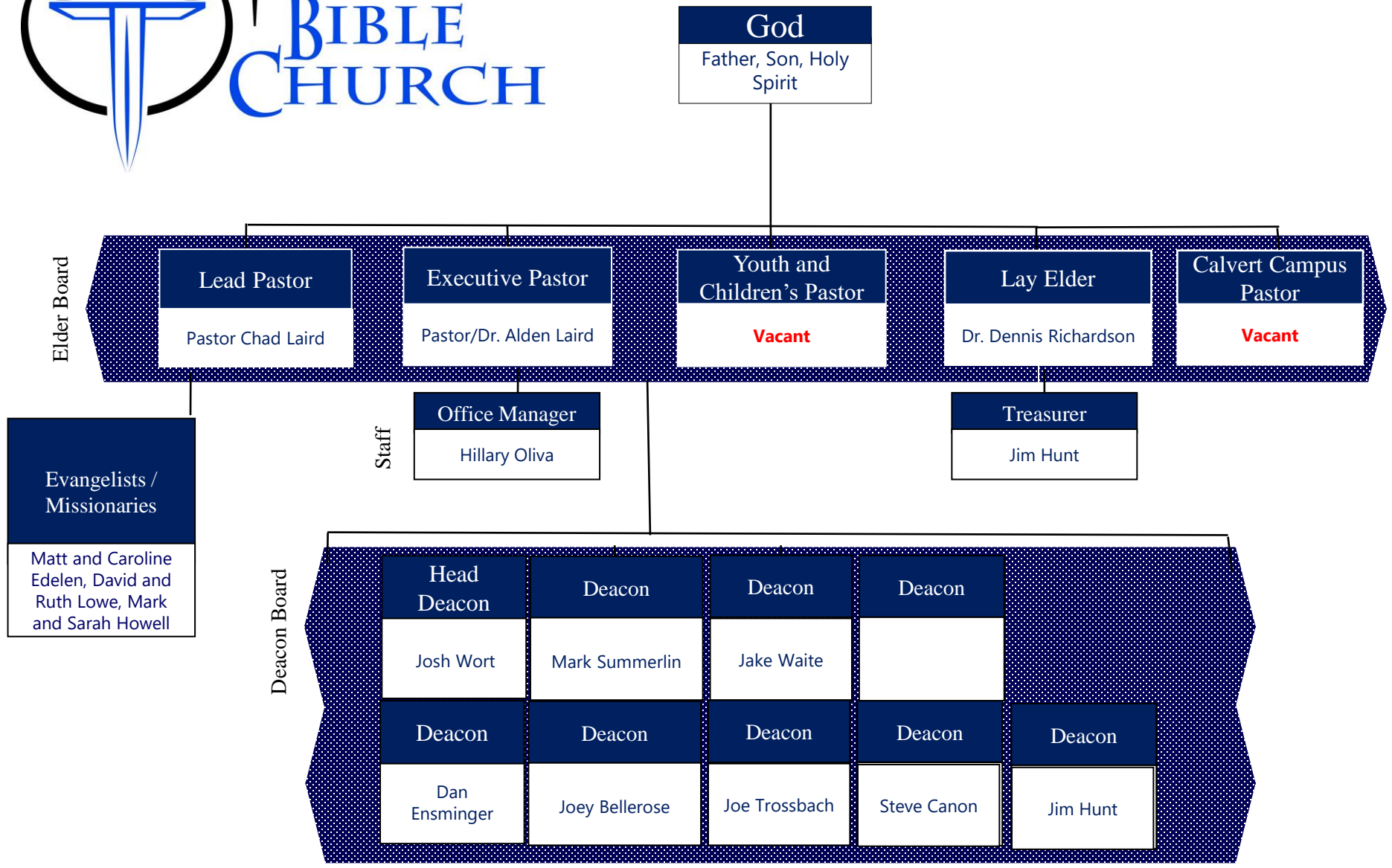
Team Members:

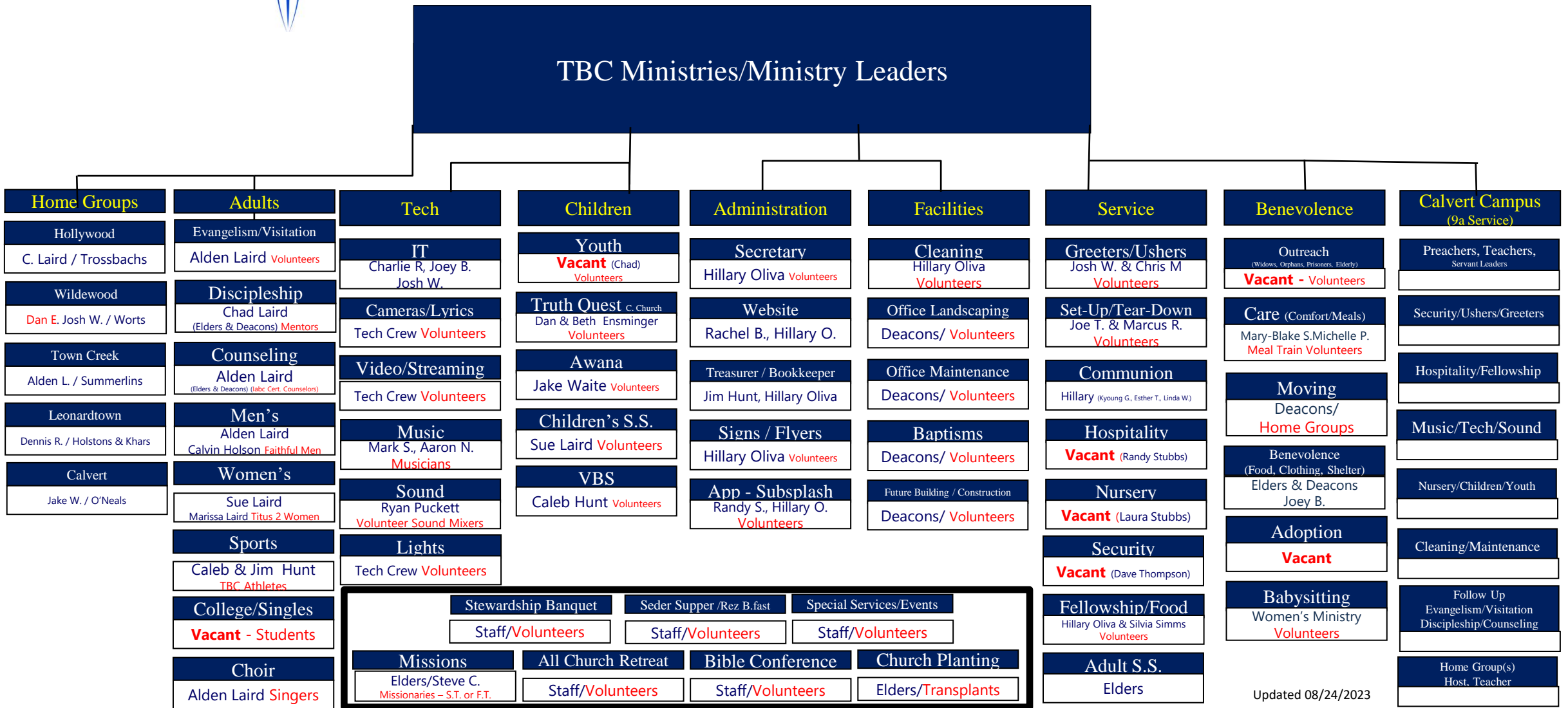
Goal: To glorify God by reading, studying, interpreting, explaining, and helping the church apply the full counsel of the Word of God. To fulfill 2 Timothy 4:2 by preaching the Word in season and out of season; to fulfill Ephesians 4:11-13, Hebrews 6:1-2, Colossians 1:28-29, and Romans 8:29 by equipping and presenting everyone in TBC spiritually mature and conformed to Christ; and to fulfill 2 Timothy 2:15 by accurately interpreting the Scriptures and thus be approved by God.

Responsibilities of the Elder Board: (taken from the TBC Constitution)

(1) The Elder Board shall have the following spiritual responsibilities and authority in addition to any other duties and powers enumerated by the Truth Bible Church Constitution and Bylaws:

1. Set the example for the church. Elders shall be men of God that are holy, blameless, and loving (Ephesians 1:4). They must lead at least one ministry and clearly be the spiritual pacesetters of the church in the critical areas of prayer, Bible teaching, fellowship, evangelism, and discipleship. They must lead by example and fulfill their responsibility as the shepherds of the church body (1 Timothy 4:12, 1 Peter 5:3). Each member of the Elder Board must regularly study God's Word and actively seek to put the Bible into practice so that they are:
 - a. personally equipped for their shepherding ministry
 - b. able to insure and maintain the doctrinal accuracy of the church
 - c. able to insure that sound Biblical practices are followed in all ministries of the church
2. Equip the church. Elders shall teach the congregation (Ephesians 4:11-13, 2 Timothy 4:2) to know and apply the Bible by preparing and delivering sermons, teaching bible studies, engaging in discipleship and counseling, and overseeing the ordinances of baptism and communion (Acts 6:4, 2 Timothy 4:2, Matthew 28:19-20, 1 Corinthians 11).
3. Intercede for the church. Elders shall be men of prayer (Romans 12:12, 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Ephesians 6:18, Acts 1:14, 2:42) who regularly pray by name for the members and ministries of Truth Bible Church.
4. Shepherd the church. Elders shall contact each member of the church as often as necessary to keep up with their needs, concerns, and spiritual well-being so that each member is known and fully utilized in serving Christ and His church. When a member is struggling spiritually or seems to be losing interest, the Elders shall do all they reasonably can to encourage continued growth and commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ and to the church, and to prevent a member from being church disciplined or automatically removed from the membership roll because of non-attendance or non-participation (Acts 20:20-28, 1 Peter 5:2)
5. Organize the church. Elders shall establish policies, practices, and philosophies of ministry for the church that are consistent with the purposes of the church as stated in the Word of God, Truth Bible Church doctrinal statements, and the Truth Bible Church Constitution and Bylaws (1 Corinthians 14:40).
6. Evaluate the church. Elders shall oversee the Christian education ministries and policies of the church, including all preaching and teaching of the Word of God. This oversight includes, but is not limited to:





Crawl, Walk, Run, PLANT!

- **Pray and Plan** – Thursdays Calvert Campus, 6:30-8:30p
- **Crawl** – Start 9:00 Service at Calvert Campus (Sep. 10, 2023)
 - Leadership/Plurality of Elders, Target Area/Need, Facility/Location, Committed Core – 1 Year Commitment, **Key Positions filled**, ***
Established Doctrinal Statement, Philosophy of Ministry,
Constitution/By-Laws, Legal Documents/501C3, Start Up Finances
- **Walk** – Add Sunday School Classes, Mid-week Home Groups
- **Run** – Add Ministries (men's, women's, youth, childrens/vbs) and add paid staff
- **PLANT!** – Calvert Campus becomes independent /autonomous of the mother church when... 1) Their own Lead Pastor in place (seminary trained), 2) Their own Plurality of Elders and Deacons, 3) Financially Independent from the mother church

Calvert Campus – September 10 Launch Plan (1-2-3-4)

1. Leadership Team (Planning & Prayer) (TBC Elders, Chad, Jake, Steve C.)

2. Core Group/Prayer Team (1 Year Commitment) (currently 11 Families)

3. Four Launch/Serving Teams (Asking every member of the core to volunteer/work on one of the 3 teams)

a. Worship Service Leader (Chad Laird)

(planning/preparing the service on Sep. 10)

- ✓ Order of Service for September 10
- ✓ Speaking Team (Call to Worship/Gospel, Announcements/Offering, Scripture Reading, Sermon, Ordinances/Communion) (Chad, Alden, Dennis, Jake, Steve C. ___)
- ✓ Music Team / Song List / Practice Date(s)/Times (4 Song Reg. Set, Special Music/Offertory, Closing Song) (Chad/Steve, Marissa, Tim, ___)
- ✓ Tech Team (working lyrics/ppt screen(s), ideally video/livestream - at least one lyrics volunteer) ___
- ✓ Sound Team (working sound system, at least one sound engineer/mixer) ___
- ✓ Security (at least 2 armed people, inside and outside, someone watching parking lot/entrances via cameras) (Dave, Randy, ___)
- ✓ Greeters/Ushers (Outside Greeter, Inside Greeter/Usher) ___
- ✓ Hospitality (Coffee/Snacks Station) (Randy) ___
- ✓ Nursery (at least two background checked women) (Laura) ___
- ✓ Children's Church during the Sermon (at least two background checked adults) (can be optional at first, but encouraged as soon as possible if enough volunteers) ___ (Marissa, Amber, ___)
- ✓ Calvert Home Group remaining at O'Neals with hopefully growth to necessitate more (Jake, Steve C. O'Neals, ___)
- ✓ Youth/Awana (Plan for right now is to have at KCA through May, reevaluation, possible van/shuttle from Calvert Campus to KCA on Sunday nights) future Kca and Calvert Youth Leader (s) ___
- ✓ ? Children's and Adult Sunday School? (Capability/volunteers now ___ or future?) (? Jake and Steve C. / video from Kca?)
- ✓ ? Fellowship (Before service breakfast/After service lunch)? (Can implement right away or in the future) ___
- ✓ ? Add other ministries when able (Men's, Women's, Youth, VBS, etc.) ___
- ✓ One church / 2 Locations until... – Church Plant is able to be independent and autonomous – criteria: Lead Pastor ___ (seminary trained) is found/in place, Plurality of Elders and Deacons trained/appointed, Financially Independent from the Sending Church.

b. Communications Leader (Brian Mayer)

(spreading the word about the Sep. 10 start) New Signs including start date signs

- ✓ New website (tbccalvert.org) (Rachel B./Hillary helping, but Calvert member ___)
- ✓ Incorporate TBC app ___ while Randy away
- ✓ Bulk Flyers – ideally two mailings a week apart (two weeks before, one week before) ___
- ✓ Door to Door Invitations/Evangelism in neighborhood closest to the campus ___

c. Building Leader (Jake Waite)

(preparation of the Calvert Campus for Sep. 10)

- ✓ Rental Leases with current church renters, deciding who stays and who goes (Chad) ___
- ✓ Buy Chairs / Sound System (Sharon)
- ✓ New Tech Installed (Charlie)
- ✓ New Sound Installed (Ryan)
- ✓ New Signs (Chad and Brian)
- ✓ Parking Lot (Brian, ___)
- ✓ HVAC (Chuck)
- ✓ Fire system
- ✓ Landscaping ___
- ✓ Security Cameras (Travis)
- ✓ New Locks
- ✓ Painting Walls ___
- ✓ Floors ___
- ✓ Cleaning *** ___
- ✓ Maintenance ___
- ✓ Improvement Projects ___
- ✓ Lawn Cutting/Trimming (Wesley / Caleb) ___
- ✓ Décor (Amber) ___

d. Administration (future Campus Pastor) (Alden Laird) (sending church handling this for now)

- ✓ Planning / Printing ___
- ✓ Offering/Counting ___
- ✓ Records/Bookkeeping/Treasurer ___
- ✓ Follow Up / Visitation ___
- ✓ Discipleship, Counseling ___
- ✓ Membership Classes, S.S./Discipleship Classes, Baptism Classes, Leadership Development Classes ___
- ✓ Weddings (Premarital counseling), Funerals ___
- ✓ Training, Installing, Overseeing Leaders and Ministries ___
- ✓ Planting New Churches ___
- ✓ Training & Sending our own Missionaries ___

Calvert Campus 9:00a Service Positions Needed: starting September 10, 2023

1. Leadership (E: Chad, Dennis, Alden) (D: Jake W. Steve C.)
2. Security (Dave T. Jim J. Randy S.)
3. Greeters/Ushers (Steve C.)
4. Hospitality/Fellowship (Coffee, Food, Meals, Communion) (Norma H. Val M.)
5. Tech Team (Video/YouTube, Livestream, Lyrics, Website, App) (Brian M. Randy S.)
6. Sound Team (Steve T. Ryan W.)
7. Preaching (Main/equipping message) (Chad, Alden, Dennis)
8. Music/Worship Team (auditions required) (Steve T. Tim O. Marissa L.)
9. Gospel Preachers (TBC Men sharing the Gospel / Mini Sermon) (Chad, Jake, Steve)
10. Nursery (Laura S. Melissa W. /rotation)
11. Children's Church (Patricia T. Chris J., Marissa L./rotation)
12. Sunday School Teachers (C: Amber W. Beth O.) (A & Y: Jake W. & Steve C.)
13. Cleaning (Volunteer Rotation)
14. Maintenance/Campus Improvement (decor, projects, etc.) (Jake W. Chuck H. Brian M. Amber W.)
15. Visitation (Campus Pastor, Alden, Chad)
16. 1 to 1 Discipleship/Counseling (Campus Pastor, Alden, Chad)
17. Administration/Treasurer (Campus Pastor, Hillary)

New Sunday School Class at KCA

Next 4 Weeks (Aug. 13, 20, 27, Sep. 3)

Calvert Campus Coordination

9:00a Service Starting September 10

- Prayer
- Positions
- Planning

KCA Campus 11:00a Service Positions Needed:

1. Leadership (E: Chad, Dennis, Alden) (D: Josh W., Mark S., Joe T., Jim H., Dan E.)
2. Security (Chris A. Ashley H.) (Dave T. Randy S.)
3. Greeters/Ushers (Chris M., Phylis B., Esther T., Linda W., Kyoung G.)
4. Hospitality/Fellowship (Coffee, Food, Meals, Communion) (Randy S.) Silvia Simms, Hillary O.)
5. Tech Team (Video, Livestream, Lyrics, Website, Tbc App) (C. Richardson, Joey B. Rachel B. Randy S.)
6. Sound Team (Ryan P. Josh W. Travis R. _____)
7. Preaching (Main/equipping message) (Chad, Alden, Dennis)
8. Music Team (auditions required) (Aaron N. Mark S. Marissa L. Ashley H. Val W. Katie N, Michelle P. Tim. O, Caleb L.)
9. Gospel Preachers (TBC Men sharing the Gospel/Testimony/Mini Sermon) (rotation member men _____)
10. Nursery (Laura S. _____/rotation of member women)
11. Children's Church (Ensmingers, Simms, Holstons, C Hunts, Waites)
12. Sunday School Teachers (C: Sue L. Amber W., _____ (A: Dennis, Alden, Y: Craig J.)
13. Cleaning (Paid at KCA, Hillary - Office)
14. Maintenance/Office (TBC Deacons, _____volunteers)
15. Evangelism/Visitation (A. Lairds, _____)
16. 1 to 1 Discipleship/Counseling (M: Alden, Chad W: Sue, Marissa, Lisa T. _____)
17. Office Administration/Treasurer/Bookkeeper (J. Hunt, Hillary)

KCA Campus 11:00a Service Positions Needed:

1. Prayer Ministry/Prayer Notes (Power/Encouragement/One-anothers) (_____), All TBC Members)
2. Evangelism Ministry (_____), All TBC Members)
3. Set Up / Tear Down (Joe Trossbach, Marcus R. _____ volunteers)
4. Awana (Craig J, Brooke J., Jake W., Amber W., _____ volunteers)
5. VBS (Caleb and Beth Hunt, _____ volunteers)
6. Youth Ministry (Craig J. Brooke J., Chad L., Marissa L., _____ volunteers)
7. Men's Ministry (Alden, Calvin) Men's 1 to 1 Discipleship (TBC Male Members)
8. Women's Ministry (Sue, Marissa) Women's 1 to 1 Discipleship (TBC Female Members)
9. Care Ministry /Meal Train (Mary-Blake S., Michelle P., Katie N.) (All TBC Members)
10. Giving/Benevolence Ministry (Deacons, Joey B.) (All TBC Members Giving & Serving)
11. Missions (Steve C. _____ volunteers)
12. Communications (Email, Phone, Texts, Website, TBC App, Planning Center) (Hillary, _____volunteers)
13. Sports (Caleb Hunt, Jim Hunt, _____team players)
14. College/Singles (_____)
15. Special Events (Baptisms (anytime), Stewardship Banquet (Jan), Good Thursday Seder Super (Mar-Apr), Resurrection Sunday Breakfast (Mar-Apr), Bible Conference (May), Summer Concert (?), All Church Retreat (Sep-Oct), Christmas Party (Dec)) (Hillary, TBC Staff, _____volunteers)

2. How to biblically **lead** the church (Biblical roles of Elders and Deacons and the Congregation)

Acts 6:2-4 ² So the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables. ³ "Therefore, brethren, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task. ⁴ "But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

The Elders two main priorities must be and must remain/continue to be:

1. **Prayer** προσευχή *proseuche*: prayer, Origin: προσεύχομαι *proseuchomai*: to pray, Root πρόσ *pros*: to, towards AND εὐχομαι *euchomai*: to pray
2. **Ministry of the Word** διακονία *diakonia*: service, ministry, Root: διάκονος *diakonos*: a servant, minister, λόγος *logos*: a word (as embodying an idea), a statement, a speech, a message (divine message), Root: λέγω *lego*: to say (what God has to say to us – divine revelation)

Acts 6:4 τῇ διακονίᾳ τοῦ λόγου (lit. the service/ministry of the Word)

Biblical Qualifications of an Elder

- **Titus 1:5-9** ⁵ For this reason I left you in Crete, that you would set in order what remains and appoint elders in every city as I directed you, ⁶ *namely*, if any man is above reproach, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of dissipation or rebellion. ⁷ For the overseer must be above reproach as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not pugnacious, not fond of sordid gain, ⁸ but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled, ⁹ holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.
- **1 Timothy 3:1-7** It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires *to do*. ² An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³ not addicted to wine or pugnacious, but gentle, peaceable, free from the love of money. ⁴ *He must be* one who manages his own household well, keeping his children under control with all dignity ⁵ (but if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how will he take care of the church of God?), ⁶ *and* not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil. ⁷ And he must have a good reputation with those outside *the church*, so that he will not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

- **Paul's Example of a Good Elder**

Acts 20:18-27 "You yourselves know, from the first day that I set foot in Asia, how I was with you the whole time, ¹⁹ serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials which came upon me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰ how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you publicly and from house to house, ²¹ solemnly testifying to both Jews and Greeks of repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²² "And now, behold, bound in spirit, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³ except that the Holy Spirit solemnly testifies to me in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions await me. ²⁴ "But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God. ²⁵ "And now, behold, I know that all of you, among whom I went about preaching the kingdom, will no longer see my face. ²⁶ "Therefore, I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all men. ²⁷ "For I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God.

- **Peter's Example of a Biblical Elder:**

1 Peter 5:1-4 Therefore, I exhort the elders among you, as *your* fellow elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, and a partaker also of the glory that is to be revealed, ² shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to *the will of* God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; ³ nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

The Primary Difference between the Elders & Deacons: **Teaching/Preaching**

Philippians 1:1 Paul and Timothy, bond-servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, including the overseers and deacons:

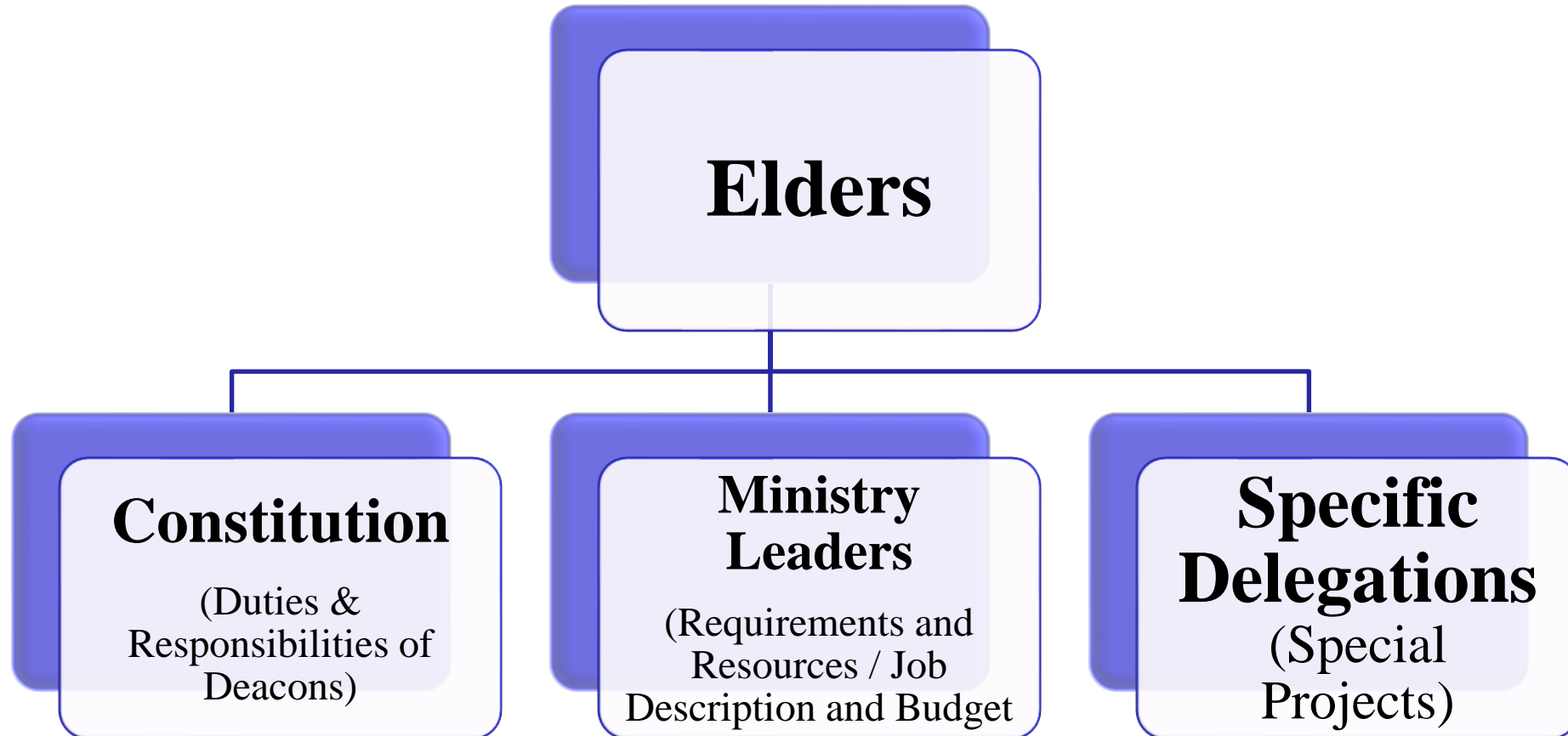
- **Elders** (presbuteros) are the Pastors/shepherds (poimen), overseers (episkopos), preachers (Kerux/heralds who kerusso/proclaim God's Word) and teachers (didaskalos), administrators (kebernesis/steering, govern) who are the decision makers of the church
- **Deacons/servants** (diakonos) are the helpers (antilempsis, sunergeo), model servants who exemplify to the members/congregation how to sacrificially and faithfully serve within the church by assisting the Elders to execute/enact their decisions and protect the Elders time to devote themselves to prayer and to the study/teaching/preaching of the Word of God.
- **1 Corinthians 12:28** ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, *various* kinds of tongues.
- **1 Peter 4:11** ¹¹ Whoever speaks, *is to do so* as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves *is to do so* as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Spiritual Gifts for TODAY:

(9 Active Gifts)

<p style="text-align: center;">Administrations (Speaking/Steering Gifts)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Helps (Serving/Assistance Gifts)</p>
<p>Teaching (Elders/Pastors, Teachers, Parents/Children's & Youth Ministry)</p> <p>Exhortation (Pastor-Teachers, Evangelists, Disciplers, Counselors, Musicians, Parents)</p> <p>Wisdom (Pastors, Teachers, Disciplers, Counselors, Parents)</p>	<p>Service (Helps) (Deacons/Ministries)</p> <p>Giving (Financial Supporters)</p> <p>Mercy (Ministries to the Sick, Poor, Orphans, Widows, Elderly, Prisoners)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Leadership (Administrations) (Elders, Ministry Leaders – Hebrews 13:17)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Faith (Prayer, Colossians 4:2)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Discernment (Interpretation, Apologetics, Titus 1:9)</p>	

3 Avenues of Delegation from the Elders to the Deacons



TBC Constitution - Article VI: Deacon Board

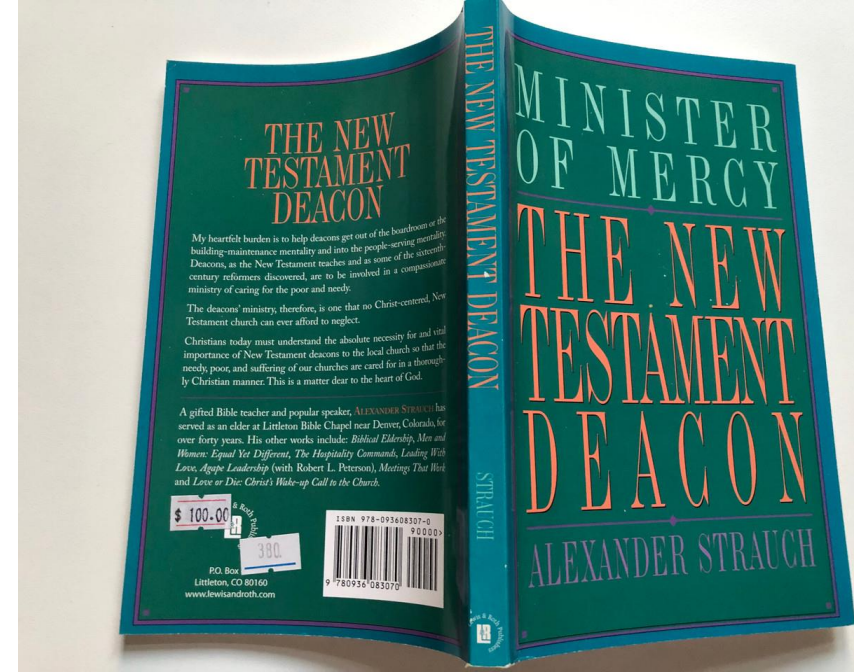
- Must be Faithful Members
- Must be Biblically Qualified Men (1 Timothy 3:8-13)
- Must be Willing to serve in the function/role/responsibilities of a Deacon
- Must complete the Deacon Candidate Process

Biblical Qualifications for a Deacon

- **1 Timothy 3:8-13** ⁸ Deacons likewise *must be* men of dignity, not double-tongued, or addicted to much wine or fond of sordid gain, ⁹ *but* holding to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. ¹⁰ These men must also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons if they are beyond reproach. ¹¹ Women *must* likewise *be* dignified, not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things. ¹² Deacons must be husbands of *only* one wife, *and* good managers of *their* children and their own households. ¹³ For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a high standing and great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

TBC Deacon Training Process

- Initial Identification by the Elders (who is a faithful member setting the example of service for the church?)
- Training by the Elders (The New Testament Deacon by Alexander Strauch)
- Evaluation by the Elders and Congregation (Personal Evaluation, Spouse Evaluation, Congregational Evaluation, Elder Evaluation)
- Approval of new Deacons by the Elders (Unanimity/Prayer)
- Appointment of new Deacons by the Elders (laying on of hands)



Our 8 Current Deacons

- **Josh Wort** (Head Deacon, Tech, Ushers/Greeters, Home Group Host and Teacher)
- **Mark Summerlin** (Music/Worship Leader, Home Group Host)
- **Jake Waite** (Awana, Youth, P.F. Church Plant, Home Group Teacher)
- **Jim Hunt** (Treasurer / Sports Ministry)
- **Joe Trossbach** (Set Up/Tear Down, Maintenance, Home Group Host)
- **Joey Bellerose** (Tech, Benevolence)
- **Steve Canon** (Set up/Tear Down, Ushers, Missions)
- **Dan Ensminger** (Children's Ministry, Home Group Teacher)

3. How to biblically **take care** of our own people and their physical needs (benevolence)

Acts 6:1 widows were being overlooked in the daily serving of food.

- **Fairness** – there should be no racial, educational, or economic bias or unfairness in the church (Ex. Hellenist/Gentile Christians vs Hebrews/Jewish Christians)
- **Commitment** - We are committed at TBC that no member of TBC ever be in need of food, clothing, and shelter. (We are committed FIRST and FOREMOST to the brethren/members of our church and then as able to meeting the physical needs of others as an expression of love and testimony to the Biblical gospel, but never enabling/always requiring references, counseling requirements, work requirements, and church requirements)

Acts 2:44-45 ⁴⁴ And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ and they *began* selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need.

2 Thessalonians 3:10-13 ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either. ¹¹ For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies. ¹² Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread. ¹³ But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary of doing good.

James 1:27 ²⁷ Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of *our* God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, *and* to keep oneself unstained by the world.

1 John 3:16-18 ¹⁶ We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. ¹⁷ But whoever has the world's goods, and sees his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him? ¹⁸ Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.

4. How to biblically **select** new church leaders (Prototype Deacons) (Church leaders/Deacons must be spiritual not just reputable)

Acts 6:3 ³ "Therefore, brethren, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task."

- **Select** - ἐπισκέπτομαι *episkeptomai*: to inspect, by ext. *to go to see*,
Origin: σκοπός *skopos*: a watchman, a mark (on which to fix the eye)
Root: from σκέπτομαι *skeptomai* (*to look carefully, consider*)
- ✓ **Good reputation** (*lit. well testified of*) μαρτυρέω *martureo*: to bear witness, testify
- ✓ **Full of the Spirit and Wisdom** - πλήρεις πνεύματος καὶ σοφίας (πνεῦμα *pneuma*: wind, spirit, σοφία *sophia*: skill, wisdom)
- ✓ **Able to lead** – *put in charge of this task (lit. appointed to this need)* - καθίστημι *kathistemi*: to set in order, appoint, χρεία *chreia*: need, task, business

Ex. Stephen – Acts 6:5, 6:8

- ✓ **man full of faith** (πίστις *pistis*: faith, faithfulness) **and of the Holy Spirit**
- ✓ **full of grace** (χάρις *charis*: grace, kindness) **and power** (δύναμις *dunamis*: (miraculous) power, might, strength)
- *Was doing great wonders* (τέρας *teras*: a wonder, marvel) **and signs** (σημεῖον *semeion*: a sign)

5. How to biblically **grow** as a church (Church Growth)

Acts 6:1 Now at this time while the disciples were increasing *in number*,

Acts 6:7 ⁷ The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem,

The early church grew/multiplied greatly because of:

1. God's Grace, Will, and Power - God ultimately gave the increase for His own honor, glory, and perfect will
2. The Early Church's Obedience - They were prayerful, wordful (full of the Word) and ultimately **FAITHFUL** (especially in evangelism/the Great Commission, to be His witnesses/ambassadors to the world

Acts 1:8 ⁸ but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." (Mt. 25:21-23 "well done, good and faithful slave.")

6. How to biblically **reach** even the most resistant people (the religious but not saved)

Acts 6:7 ⁷ The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith.

What convinced the crowd of priests to believe in Jesus/convert from the legalism of Judaism to the grace of Christianity? Probably not one thing but the collect testimony and witness of:

1. Undeniable Truth/Fact-based Faith - they realized that Jesus did fulfill all of their O.T. Scriptures

Matthew 5:17-18 ¹⁷ "Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ "For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

Acts 3:18 ¹⁸ "But the things which God announced beforehand by the mouth of all the prophets, that His Christ would suffer, He has thus fulfilled.

Acts 9:22 ²² But Saul kept increasing in strength and confounding the Jews who lived at Damascus by proving that this *Jesus* is the Christ.

Acts 17:2-3 reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³ explaining and giving evidence that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and *saying*, "This Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you is the Christ."

Acts 18:28 ²⁸ for he (Apollos) powerfully refuted the Jews in public, demonstrating by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.

6. How to biblically **reach** even the most resistant people (the religious but not saved)

Acts 6:7 ⁷ The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith.

What convinced the crowd of priests to believe in Jesus/convert from the legalism of Judaism to the grace of Christianity? Probably not one thing but the collect testimony and witness of:

2. Real Love and Life Change/Obedience – they saw the real love, grace, compassion, and kindness/care that the N.T. church had towards meeting the needs of its own and even outsiders and it was attractive and compelling

John 13:34-35 ³⁴ "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. ³⁵ "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

John 14:21-23 ²¹ "He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him." ...²³ Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him."

1 John 2:3-5 ³ By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments...⁵ but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him:

1 John 4:12 if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us.

6. How to biblically **reach** even the most resistant people (the religious but not saved)

Acts 6:7 ⁷ The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith.

What convinced the crowd of priests to believe in Jesus/convert from the legalism of Judaism to the grace of Christianity? Probably not one thing but the collect testimony and witness of:

3. Supernatural Power from God –they saw signs, wonders, and miracles and believed because they knew that God was at work/doing these miracles as evidence/proof of Jesus (Lord, Christ) and His gospel.

John 2:23 ²³ Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name, observing His signs which He was doing.

John 3:2 ² this man (Nicodemus) came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him."

John 10:36-38 I said, 'I am the Son of God '? ³⁷ "If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; ³⁸ but if I do them, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, so that you may know and understand that the Father is in Me, and I in the Father."

Acts 4:16 "What shall we do with these men? For the fact that a noteworthy miracle has taken place through them is apparent to all who live in Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it.

Acts 2:22 ²² "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know—

Acts 10:38 ³⁸ " *You know of* Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and *how* He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

7. How to biblically **serve** and **imitate** powerful men like Stephen

Acts 6:5 Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit ... **Acts 6:8-10** ⁸ And Stephen, full of grace and power, was performing great wonders and signs among the people. ...¹⁰ But they were unable to cope with the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking.

Stephen was filled FULL of the Holy Spirit – Acts 6:5, 6:8

- ✓ **Full of faith** (πίστις *pistis*: faith, faithfulness)
- ✓ **Full of the Holy Spirit** (πνεῦμα *pneuma*: wind) (ἅγιος *hagios*: sacred, holy)
- ✓ **Full of grace** (χάρις *charis*: grace, kindness) **and power** (δύναμις *dunamis*: (miraculous) power, might, strength)
- ✓ **Full of wisdom** (σοφία *sophia*: skill, wisdom)

SO WHAT?

Application



Are you FULL of God Spirit and Power through Prayer?

Are you FULL of God's TRUTH and wisdom through His Word?

Are you Full of Faith and Grace because you are spending quality time with Jesus and becoming more like Him?

Or are you empty – little power because of little prayer, little wisdom because of little Word, little faith and little grace because you spend little time with Jesus?

Lord help me, help TBC be FAITHFUL!

2 Timothy 2:1-2 You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ² The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

Matthew 24:45-46 ⁴⁵ "Who then is the faithful and sensible slave whom his master put in charge of his household to give them their food at the proper time? ⁴⁶ "Blessed is that slave whom

Calvert Campus 9:00 Service Positions Needed: **starting September 10, 2023**

1. Security
2. Greeters/Ushers
3. Hospitality (Coffee, Food, Fellowship Meals)
4. Tech Team (Video, Livestream, Lyrics)
5. Sound Team
6. Music/Worship Team (auditions required)
7. Gospel Preachers (TBC Men sharing the Gospel / Mini Sermon)
8. Nursery
9. Children's Church
10. Sunday School Teachers
11. Cleaning
12. Maintenance/Campus Improvement (decorating, painting, projects, etc.)