



## How May We Serve You?

Acts 6:1-7; 1 Timothy 3:8-13

**Acts 6:1-4**, *But as the believers rapidly multiplied, there were rumblings of discontent. The Greek-speaking believers complained about the Hebrew-speaking believers, saying that their widows were being discriminated against in the daily distribution of food. 2 So the Twelve called a meeting of all the believers. They said, “We apostles should spend our time teaching the Word of God, not running a food program. 3 And so, brothers, select seven men who are well respected and are full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will give them this responsibility. 4 Then we apostles can spend our time in prayer and teaching the word.”*

### I. God expects us to examine a man's character. Acts 6:3

**Acts 6:3**, *... select seven men who are well respected and are full of the Spirit and wisdom.*

#### A. Have a good reputation.

**1 Timothy 3:8**, *Likewise deacons must be*

*reverent...*

#### B. Give evidence of being Spirit-filled.

**Ephesians 5:18**, *Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit,*

**1 Timothy 3:8**, *...not given to much wine...*

**Proverbs 23:31-33**, *Do not look on the wine when it is red, When it sparkles in the cup, When it swirls around smoothly; 32 At the last it bites like a serpent, And stings like a viper. 33 Your eyes will see strange things, And your heart will utter perverse things.*



For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; (Titus 1:7 KJV)

Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise. (Prov 20:1 KJV)



**I do not care what you say!  
The Bible says you cannot judge me ?**

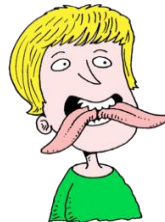
**Galatians 5:22-23**, *But the Holy Spirit produces*

*this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control.*

## C. Give evidence of walking in wisdom.

## II. God expects us to examine a man's conduct. Acts 6:1; 1 Timothy 3:8-13

**1 Timothy 3:8-9**, *Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money, 9 holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience. NKJV*



Deacons must not be double-tongued. 1 Timothy 3:8

**Matthew 18:15**, *“If another believer sins against you, go privately and point out the offense. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back.*

**1 Timothy 3:10**, *But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless. NKJV*

**1 Timothy 3:11**, *Likewise, their wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things. 12 Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. NKJV*

**2 Corinthians 5:17**, *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have parasitic infection more have no idea passed away; behold, all things have become new.*

**1 Timothy 3:13**, *For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus. NKJV*

**Acts 6:7**, *So God’s message continued to spread. The number of believers greatly increased in Jerusalem, and many of the Jewish priests were converted, too.*

## APPLY GOD’S TRUTH

1. As we prepare to select Godly men to serve as deacons, will we allow God’s Word to guide the process?
2. Will you aspire to live out these Godly character traits as well?
3. Would like to join a church family, where Scripture will always be our final authority?
4. Are you certain of your own relationship with Christ?