

## Chapter 3

1. On a scale from 1 to 5 how difficult was Chapter 3 for you to understand? (1 being easy and 5 being very difficult) Why do you think that was?
2. What points presented in chapter 3 were most difficult for you to understand? What needs to occur for you to be sure to grasp the arguments of this chapter?
3. There are five points under the heading, Evidence for Deacons as Assistants (see pages 52–61 in the text). Which two points do you think present the strongest evidence the deacons are assistants to the elders? Explain your answers.
4. Explain the point of the second argument, eliminating alternative usages of the *dikonos*, for supporting the view the deacons are assistants to the elders (see pages 54–56 in the text).
5. What does the author mean when he says, not every use of deacon means simply servant or carries menial, servile conditions? Why is this an important point to grasp?
6. List the facts that demonstrate that the overseers are the supervisors of the deacons.
7. Why would Paul want the elders to have officially recognized assistants? List as many reasons as you can.
8. List potential problems associated with the “assistant” to the elders view.
9. How would you describe the biblical relationship between the deacons in the church elders?
10. In what specific ways could an elder abuse the policy of deacons acting as assistants?
11. The reason for the study is because several men have been uncertain about their position in the church and what they are to do as deacons. Why is it important for the elders and deacons to be perfectly clear about their position in the church and what they are to do?