

Letters To Leaders 3

Deacons are to serve the church by caring for its practical needs and freeing up the elders to devote themselves to the ministry of the Word and prayer.

Deacons _____

1. Deacons must be _____.
2. Deacons must _____.
3. Deacons must be _____.

Deacons _____

1. Deacons are to _____ the Elders.
2. Deacons are to _____ for the Flock.
3. Deacons need not _____.

Deacons _____

1. Deacons enjoy a _____ in Christ Jesus.
2. Deacons gain a _____ for themselves.
3. Deacons should be given great _____ from the _____.
4. Deacons will have _____ from Christ Jesus.

NOTES: _____

Group Questions

1. What are some of the practical needs that arise in your church? What challenges can they pose to:
 - a. the unity of the church?
 - b. the church leaders?
2. When practical needs arise in your church, who tends to take care of them?
3. Why do you think Paul insists that deacons be tested before they serve?
4. In your opinion what does it mean to “hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience”?
 - a. Why is this so important?
5. Why would the elders want to involve the congregation in the examination and approval of new deacons? What scriptures would you use to justify your answer?
6. Why should there be some kind of formal, public installation of a deacon before the church body? What would the laying on of hands mean to the church into the deacon if it is done at the installation of a new deacon?
7. What are some specific ways you think deacons should serve in the church? What are some needs in your church that deacons could address?
8. What are some challenges deacons face? What are some ways you can encourage and pray for your church’s deacons in light of these challenges?