

Two Crucial Observations

- 1) A brewing conflict in the church body was the context in which the role of deacons was established.
- 2) The real concern for the leaders was being distracted from the work Jesus entrusted to them for His body.

The Solution

The twelve summoned the whole body of the disciples together and said, "It is not right that we should have to neglect preaching the Word of God in order to look after the accounts. You, our brothers, must look round and pick out from your number seven men of good reputation who are both **practical and spiritually-minded** and we will put them in charge of this matter. Then we shall devote ourselves whole-heartedly to prayer and the ministry of the Word." (JB Phillips)

- ❖ They appointed practical and spiritually-minded individuals to resolve the conflict.
 1. Protect and promote the unity of the church body.
 2. Meet the physical and administrative needs of the body.
 3. Serve as formal assistants to the elders.

Two Challenges

- ❖ We need to re-envision the ministry of deacons within the body according to the Acts 6 passage.
- ❖ We need to make sure our expectations for our leaders aligns with Jesus' expectations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, October 8th, 2023

Jr. High Retreat: This October, Multiply Jr. High (6th-8th grade) is heading to Covenant Cedars Camp for their retreat. The theme for this year is "Be Known." We are going to spend time growing together in our relationships with God. It will be a fun weekend! The cost is \$20 per student. Wednesday, October 11th is the last day to register. The group will meet at the church at 5:30 pm on Friday, October 27th and return at 9:30 pm on Saturday, October 28th. Learn more and register at hillcrestefc.org/jrhighretreat.

Hillcrest Kids Meet & Greet: Join us at the coffee bar anytime between 9:30 am and 11 am on Sunday, October 22nd. Donuts will be served as we welcome the newest Hillcrest Kids ministries leaders, Suzie Bauman, Nursery and Pre-K Coordinator and Jessica Sander, Elementary Coordinator. Arrangements will be made so all children's Sunday school teachers and caregivers will have the opportunity to enjoy this time of fellowship as well. Let us all take this time to encourage and thank these new leaders and all the volunteers who serve in the Sunday School, Children's Church, and Nursery. We truly have the best team of teachers, helpers and caregivers. They are dedicated to our children and our church family, and their love for raising up Christ followers is evident in their commitment to the ministry.

The Annual Thanksgiving Banquet is Sunday, November 5th! Join us for a special service at 5 pm followed by a turkey dinner at 6:15 pm. Dinner is provided. Childcare is available during the service for 0-6 years old. Please RSVP for childcare hillcrestefc.org/childcarersvp as soon as possible so we know how many childcare helpers are needed.

Baptism: Talk to one of the pastors if you would like to be baptized during either service on November 19th.

Hillcrest Highlights: Visit hillcrestefc.org/email to join the church email list.

Ways to Give: Offering collection boxes are located by the sanctuary doors. You can also give online at hillcrestefc.org/give or on the Hillcrest Church app.