

The Deacon
God's Servant
Acts 6:1-7

A Man of Compassion vv.1-2

The word deacon in Greek means servant. They were servants who were called upon to help. The pastor was ministering spiritually and the deacons ministered physically. Hellenistic Christians were concerned because of neglect to their widows by the Hebrew Christians. A real valid concern. A Hellenist would have been someone who practiced some Greek traditions, attire, food, etc. There may have been a language barrier. The church was growing leaps and bounds, the men would have been recorded in this culture, so the count would have been around 5000 so in reality roughly around 20,000 with women and children. So growing pains were happening! The apostles could not manage all the needs and concerns, their job according to Ephesians 4:12 "to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ," therefore; the apostles had to triage ministry, yet remain faithful to the ministry of the word and prayer first and foremost.

Remember what Jethro, Moses' father-in-law said in Exodus 18:17-18 "17 Moses' father-in-law said to him, "What you are doing is not good. 18 You and the people with you will certainly wear yourselves out, for the thing is too heavy for you. You are not able to do it alone." Moses was bombarded with everyone's needs day after day, so they appointed managers.

Growing pains caused a need for organization!

A Man of Christian Character vv.3-4

1 Timothy 3:8-13 "Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. 9 They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. 10 And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. 11 Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. 12 Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. 13 For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus."

A Man That is Chosen vv.5-6

A Man Who is a Catalyst for Christ v.7

Testimonies

Challenge to the Church: Will you pray for these men and their families to be godly servant leaders, to represent Christ always, and to serve in a manner that exalts Jesus Christ?

Challenge to the Deacons: Will you serve the members of Oak Hill Baptist Church, in a manner that represents and exalts Jesus Christ?