

Big Idea: Deacons are simply servants; their ministry is designed to support and complement the elders. They can do anything that will allow the elders to give themselves to the Word and prayer.

I. Background notes:

- A. When it comes to church leadership God speaks with CLARITY
- B. When it comes to church leadership we have often introduced CONFUSION
- C. When it comes to church leadership God has given some measure of FREEDOM

II. The Lord's servants

A. Their IDENTITY

1. The TERM

diakonos - diakonia - diakoneo -

2. The USE

- Office
- Work

B. Their QUALIFICATIONS vs. 8,9,10,12

- 1. Dignity
- 2. Not double tongued

- 3. Not addicted to much wine
- 4. Not fond of sordid gain
- 5. Holding to the mystery of the faith
- 6. Tested
- 7. Above reproach
- 8. Husband of one wife
- 9. Good managers of their home

What about women deacons? v. 11

- Who is in view?
- Nothing they can't do...
- What to look for...

C. Their REWARD v. 13

- 1. Deep RESPECT
- 2. Great CONFIDENCE

III. What we take away...

A. The church is a FAMILY, and in a family, EVERYONE does their part, and everyone SERVES

B. God calls us to DIFFERENT functions and responsibilities, but His call is always to CHRISTLIKE character