



Deacons – The Helpers

Acts 6:1-7



Deacons

Deacons In Local Church

Who Are God's Leaders?

Paul and Timothy,
bond-servants of
Christ Jesus, to
in Christ Jesus
who are in
Philippi,
including the
and

. . . all the saints

. . . overseers

. . . deacons

Philippians 1:1



All of us



God's
Leaders

New Testament Passages - Leadership

Topic	Elders	Deacons	Together
Ministry Established	Acts 11:30 Acts 14:23 Titus 1:5	Acts 6:1-6	Phil. 1:1
Qualifications Given	1 Tim. 3:1-7 Titus 1:6-9	1 Tim. 3:8-12	
Responsibilities Implied & Stated	Acts 15:2-23 Acts 20:17-28 1 Tim. 5:17-19 James 5:14 1 Peter 5:1-5	Acts 6:1-6 1 Tim. 3:12	
Call To Honor	1 Thess. 5:12-14 1 Tim. 5:17-19 Heb. 13:7, 17	1 Thess. 5:12-14 Heb. 13:7	
Guidelines For Discipline	1 Tim. 5:17-19		

Greek Meaning of “Deacon”

Phil 1:1

Deacon . . .



διακονος = **“one who serves,
on ho helps”**



Serving The Greek Widows

Acts 6:1-4

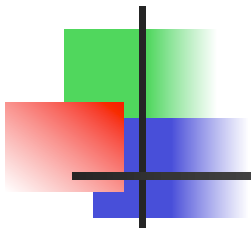
Phoebe, Who Is Servant of The Church”

Romans 16:1

Servant . . .



- 1) Official title***
- 2) English word – deaconess***
- 3) Early church had deaconesses***



Deacons, part 1



“Dignity”

σεμνος = “good character, honorable”

He is serious in mind and character . . .

- He is very respected.



“Not double tongued”

μη διλογος = “not two tongued”

He does not say one thing to one person and something else to another . . .

- He is must be honest.
- He must not be political.
- He is trustworthy.



“Not addicted to wine”

μη προσεχω = “not pay close attention to”

He does not drink too much diluted wine. . .

- Prov. 20:1 – see “drink” and “strong drink.”
- Prov. 31:4, 6 – see “drink” and “strong drink.”



“Not fond of sordid gain”

μη αισχρεκερδης = “not greedy for money”

He does not eager in his pursuit of money . . .



“Holding to the mystery of the faith”

εχοντας ο μυστηριον = “holding to mystery
ο πιστος of the faith”

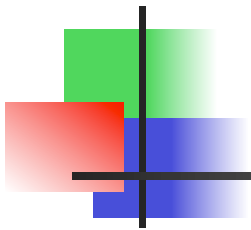
He strongly believes all of the scriptures . . .



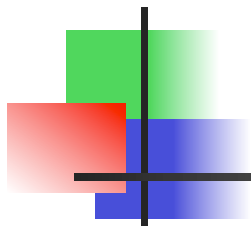
“Be Tested”

δοκιμαζω = “to examine, to try out, to prove”

He is observed and passes the test . . .



Deaconesses



“Dignity”

σεμνος = “good character, honorable”

She is serious in mind and character . . .

- She is very respected.



“Not Malicious Gossip”

μη διαβολος = “not a slanderer”

She is not a slanderer . . .



“Temperate”

νηφαλιος = “restrained, sober”

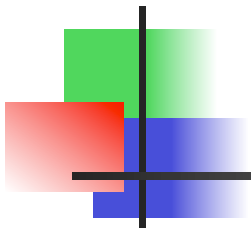
She is not out of control . . .



“Faithful In All Things”

πιστος εν πασ = “faithful in all”

She is faithful in everything. . .



Deacons, part 2



“One Woman-Man”

ανδρες μας γυναικος = “one-woman man”

He is completely devoted to his wife.



“One Woman-Man”

πιστος εν πας = “faithful in all”

She is faithful in everything. . .



“Good Manager”

καλως προϊστημι = “good caring shepherd”

He manages his home well as a good shepherd.

Key Differences In Qualifications

<i>Elders</i>	<i>Deacons/ Deaconess</i>
<i>Loves strangers</i>	<i>Not two faced</i>
<i>Good teacher</i>	<i>Strong believer</i>
<i>Supportive team member</i>	<i>Not gossips</i>
	<i>Tested</i>

Differences In Function

<i>Elders</i>	<i>Deacons/ Deaconess</i>
<i>Teach/ Shepherd</i> <i>Oversee</i>	<i>Help the elders</i>

***We Are Looking For
Patterns of Life***

Not Perfection