

## What Deacons Wish The Church Knew About Deacons

(1 Timothy 3:8-13)

- Introduction:
1. There seems to be a lot of confusion regarding the responsibilities and roles people fulfill in the church.
  2. (Romans 12; 1 Corinthians 12) Teach that the church is a body consisting of different members.
  3. In order to function as the body of Christ, we must learn to recognize and appreciate each others roles.
  4. Today, we will examine some truths about deacons and ask the question, "If I were a deacon, what would I want the church to know about deacons?"

### I. Deacons Are Not "Junior Elders"

- A. Oftentimes, people view the work of a deacon as merely a stepping stone to the eldership.
- B. However, serving as a deacon is an end in and of itself.
- C. Don't judge or look critically upon deacons who have not become elders.
- D. (1 Timothy 3:13).

### II. The Work Of Deacons Is Not Limited To "Physical" Matters

- A. Again, oftentimes people will be overheard saying that elders tend to spiritual matters and deacons tend to physical matters.
- B. Such a distinction is not biblically based.
- C. Deacons are special servants and are to be used by the elders in whatever way they choose to use them.
- D. (Acts 6:1-8).

### III. Deacons Are Special Servants, But They Are Not The Only Servants

- A. The Greek term "diakonos" (deacon/servant/minister) is used applied to all Christians (Matthew 20:26; John 12:26; 1 Timothy 4:6; Romans 16:1, etc.).
- B. A church cannot expect the deacons to do all the work.
- C. We all need to work together (1 Peter 2:9; 3 John 8).

### IV. Deacons Need To Be Allowed To Do Their Work & Accountable For Their Work

- A. No one likes to be told what to do and then not be allowed to do it.
- B. The church and the leadership needs to be patient and allow these men to serve.
- C. (Acts 6:3).
- D. Sometimes we grow and learn by falling and failing.
- E. We inspect what we expect!

- Conclusion:
1. May our deacons be reminded that their service is to God (Colossians 3:23).
  2. May we also realize that our deacons are not the only servants in the church.
  3. We all have work to do!

– Steve Higginbotham