

Know and Do—Going Deeper, week 6: “What a Deacon Does” (know portion)

I. The _____ deacons — Acts 6:1–7

- A. **(v. 1)** *Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution.*
- B. **(v. 2)** *² And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables.*
- C. **(vv. 3–6)** *³ Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴ But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” ⁵ And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶ These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.*
- D. **(v. 7)** *⁷ And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.*

II. Three main _____ for deacons:

- 1. _____ the church
- 2. Making _____ in the church
- 3. Supporting _____

Know and Do—Going Deeper, week 6: “What a Deacon Does” (do portion)

1. In what passage of Scripture do we find a prototype model for the deacon ministry?
2. Why is this passage valuable to a church seeking to understand what a deacon ought to do?
3. What occasion brought on the initial need for official deacons in the church?
4. What did the church stand to lose had they not instituted deacons?
5. How have you seen deacons serve in the local church?
6. Have you ever helped one of your deacons with a particular task of the church?
7. Why is it so important for deacons to be peacemakers?
8. Look through the qualifications for deacons in 1 Timothy 3:8–13. Why do you think that kind of character is necessary to perform the job of deacon?
9. What can happen to a church when the deacons don’t properly support the pastors/elders?
10. How can you best support the deacons of your church?