

February 26, 2023  
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**"The Deacon Ministry"**  
**Ordination Sermon**  
**Acts 6:1-7**  
**Memory Verse: Acts 6:7**

**Introduction**

- A. Acts is the unfolding story of the people of God, filled with the Spirit of God, engaging in the mission of God.
- B. We exist to glorify God by making disciples through the gospel, in community, on mission.
- C. We glorify God by making disciples. That is gospel ministry.
- D. Gospel ministry can be endangered (6:1).
- E. Gospel ministry must be protected (6:2-6).
- F. Big Idea: Deacons were chosen to protect the gospel ministry of the church by meeting specific needs that threatened the unity of the church.

**I. Deacons Meet Needs according to the Word of God (6:1)**

- A. Their primary role was spiritual service aimed at meeting specific needs.
- B. Deacon ministries arise from specific circumstances.
- C. The fact that different needs call for different types of leaders may help explain why we do not see clear responsibilities for deacons spelled out in the New Testament.
- D. Deacons are to be flexible leading servants.

**II. Deacons Support the Ministry of the Word of God (6:2-4)**

- A. Deacons were appointed so the apostles could devote themselves to prayer and the ministry of the Word.
- B. Deacons are to lead and serve in such a way that others are enabled to serve.

**III. Deacons Unify the Church around the Word of God (6:5-7)**

- A. There were needs to be met, but there were also deeper issues.
- B. Physical neglect was causing spiritual disunity.
- C. Christians were beginning to complain against one another.
- D. Deacons were to nip the problem in the bud. They were to squelch the tension and rising disunity in the church.

**Conclusion**

- A. Gospel ministry can be endangered.
- B. Gospel ministry must be protected.
- C. Gospel ministry should be fruitful (6:7).
- D. The Gospel Definition