



## The Biblical Role of Deacons in the Church

By Roy Lee Saint

While there is not a detailed job description for deacons in the New Testament, the occasion for the creation of the office is enlightening, along with the descriptions of the original deacons. The qualifications for the office in Acts 6 and 1st Timothy 3 shed a good deal of light. The title itself, however, is as descriptive as any job description could be. In the Bible, words have meanings— and the word “deacon” means servant.

The purpose of deacons is to serve the Lord by conducting the caring ministry of the church — doing the work of the benevolence ministry, visiting the sick, being alert to the spiritual needs of the congregation — and by promoting unity within the church, thus freeing the pastor(s) to focus on prayer and the ministry of the Word, and consequently, facilitating the spreading of the gospel.

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