







The Office of Pastor
Three Biblical Words

Elder = πρεσβύτερος = Presbyteros

Overseer = ἐπίσκοπος = Episkopos

Shepherd / Pastor = ποιμήν = Poimen

The Office of Deacon

Deacon = διάκονος = diakanos
 "Servant"

One Who Serves

Acts 5

⁴² And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

Acts 6

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.

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.

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.

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.

The Servant Calling of Deacons Strengthens God's Church in Four Ways.

As Protectors of the Church's Unity

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.

As Defenders of the Gospel Call

^{2b} "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables.

As Guardians of Godly Living

^{3b} pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom

As Keepers of the Church's Mission

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.


