

The Biblical Church Deacon Nomination Process

Monday, May 19, 2025
12:00N & 6:00P

³ *Brothers and sisters, **choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom.** We will turn this responsibility over to them ⁴ and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word. (Acts 6:3-4)*

Via Zoom Livestream (To View & Participate in **CBA1** Training Sessions):

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How Diaconate Ministry Congregational Care Strengthened the Church

The Congregation's Responsibility: Choosing the "Right" Diaconate Members

What Happens When Congregational Care is Done Right?

The church grows when the congregation maintains its focus on the God, the Word of God, and Jesus Christ our Savior.

How to Create a Ministry of Congregational Care within Your Diaconate

Congregational Goals: Spiritual Increase

Allows for Increase in...

- 1. The Teaching of the Word of God**
- 2. Disciples & Church Membership**
- 3. Obedience to the Faith**

When the "Call" of Congregational Care is Fulfilled, Churches are Able to...

- 1. Spread Harmony within the Body of Christ**
- 2. Serve and Care for the Congregation**
- 3. Retain the Membership of the Congregation**
- 4. Share and Support the Pastor's Vision to the Congregation**
- 5. Teach Baptist Doctrine to the Congregation**
- 6. Encourage Ministry Involvement within the Congregation**
- 7. Pray for and Encourage the Members of the Congregation**

When Congregational Care is Done Right - The Congregational Care Goal (Acts 2:41-44)

The Biblical Origin of the Deacon: A “Department of Labor” within the Church

To serve and labor as a function within the congregation and not to hold “office” over the congregation. The biblical perspective of the Deacon is not a position nor something to be possessed, but the biblical deacon is an “action” that describes a work that is to be for the Body of Christ.

Deacons should be chosen based on their ability to serve the congregation and their willingness to be accountable to the congregation. The biblical Deacon is one who serves the congregation and does not place him/herself in a place of authority over the church’s membership.

Diaconate Qualifications - Acts 6:3 (NIV)

- Known & Well Respected
- Believers who know the needs of the congregation.
- Familiar with the needy within the congregation.
- Trusted and respected by the needy to have their needs met and provided for.
- Full of the Holy Spirit
- Has demonstrated that the Holy Spirit has been and is at work within them.

According to Acts 6:3...

“...choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom.”

- A. **Grow Into Being a Deacon:** Deacons should be chosen for their “potential” to possess the biblical qualities of diaconate leadership.
- B. **Demonstrated Qualities of a Deacon:** Deacons should be chosen because they have proven to already possess the biblical, diaconate qualities in order for them to become a Deacon.

Choosing & Appointing Believers to Christian Office for Biblical Reasons

The appointment of a believer into a church leadership position for non-biblical, self-motivated, personal reasons is a _____.

Never be in a hurry about appointing a church leader. Do not share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure. 1 Timothy 5:22

The Biblical Obligation of the Diaconate

Is it possible to be a New Testament Diaconate without fulfilling the Diaconate's biblical "Task" of serving and caring for the congregation?

Deacons without the *Spirit of Care* (I'm a Deacon, but I...)

The Diaconate's Biblical Responsibility

The Deacon and Deaconess should be careful to ensure that their focus on _____ is neither _____ nor _____ by being involved in other areas and needs of the ministry. Congregational Care is of the _____ in every ministry and Diaconate members must always be in position and ready to " _____ " as called upon and needed.

Steps to Achieving Successful Diaconate Congregational Care

1. Know Your Position's Place within Your Doctrine

Which is Correct?

- A. The Congregation is Accountable to the Deacons.
- B. The Deacons are Accountable to the Congregation.
- C. The Deacons & Congregation are Accountable to God.
- D. B & C

2. The Biblical Pastor & Deacon Relationship

Pastors and Deacons must know their places within the church's _____ & be willing work together in _____ with one another.

Pastors are the _____ of the church. (1 Timothy 3:1)

The Deacon's Responsibility (Congregational Care: Serving ALL believers and members in the church)

Avoiding _____ and _____ towards and particular person or groups of people.

Deacons are required to be, among other things, _____ and _____ in the church.

3. Abide By & Follow Your Church's Doctrine

The Appropriate Size of the Diaconate Ministry: *How many Deacons should our church have?*

Deacons and Deaconesses are called for the purpose of assisting the pastors in fulfilling the church's ministry to the congregation. The size of the diaconate should reflect the congregation's...

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

As these three factors evolve and change (whether increase or decrease), so should the Diaconate Ministry.

Diaconate/Membership Ratio (The 10% Diaconate/Membership Rule)

The 10% Diaconate Rule meaning that each Congregational Care Deacon/Deaconess represents 1/10 (____ Active Diaconate Member for every _____ members) of their assigned Congregational Care Group.

Why the 10% Diaconate Rule?

The 10% Diaconate Rule fosters a “small group” environment where no matter how large the church grows in membership, each member receives “individual” ministry care within a small group of the church’s members.

Not Enough Deacons for the 10% Diaconate Rule?

Some churches have the goal of having 1 Deacon for every _____ in their membership. However, 1 Deacon maintaining consistent contact and care of 25 people is not realistic.

1. Congregational Care Leaders should be those who have the Spirit of _____ the church’s membership.
2. Not all Deacons have the desire to do _____.
3. Consider including _____ and _____ who have the Spirit of Congregational Care.

Why Include Deaconesses in the “Diaconate”

The 10% “Diaconate” Rule and not a 10% “Deacons” Rule because...

1. The primary responsibility of the Diaconate is _____ of the Body of Christ.
2. Depending on the church, the Diaconate can be “inclusive” of _____ and _____, Deacons and Deaconesses within the congregation.

Why Don’t Churches Include Deaconesses in the “Diaconate”

One of the traditional reasons why _____ are often excluded from the “Diaconate” is that the Deacon Ministry has sometimes been viewed as an area of “_____” in the church. In some churches, the _____ of _____ (and consequently Deaconesses) are not included in governance matters and decisions. As we will learn in this training, _____ of the church is not a biblical responsibility of the _____ in the church as Governance in the Baptist Church is empowered to the congregation as the Body of Christ.

The Biblical Female Deacon/Deaconess Romans 16:1-2 (Amplified Bible)

Who Was Phoebe?

According to Romans 16:1, Pheobe was a...

- Deaconess (Amplified Bible & International Standard Version)
- Deacon (NIV)
- Servant (English Standard Version)
- Leader (Contemporary English Version)
- Minister (New American Bible)

What Was Phoebe Known for Doing?

- Acts of Kindness
- Generosity
- Spiritual Leadership
- Leading the church that met in her home in Cenchreae

Romans 16:2a

- That you may receive her in the Lord... (Amplified Bible)
- Welcome her in the Lord (New Living Translation)
- That you would accept her in Our Lord (Aramaic Bible)
- Give her a Christian welcome (God's Word Translation)

Romans 16:2b

- ...[with love and hospitality], as God's people ought to receive one another. (Amplified Bible)
- ...in a way worthy of his people (NIV)
- ...as one who is worthy of honor among God's people. (New Living Translation)
- ...in a way worthy of the saints (English Standard Version)
- ...in a way that is proper for someone who has faith in the Lord and is one of God's own people. (Contemporary English Version)

Romans 16:2c

- ...and to give her any help she may need from you... (NIV)
- Help her in whatever she needs... (New Living Translation)
- ...help her in whatever she may need from you... (English Standard Version)...assist her in whatever business she has need of you (New King James Version)
- ...assist her in whatever matter she may require your help. (Christian Standard Bible)
- Provide her with anything she may need... (God's Word Translation)

Romans 16:2d

- ...for she has been the benefactor of many people, including me. (NIV)
- ...for she has been helpful to many, and especially to me. (New Living Translation)
- ...for she herself has also been a helper of many, and of myself as well. (New American Standard Bible)
- After all, she has proved to be a respected leader for many others, including me. (Contemporary English Version)
- ...for she herself has been a good friend to many people and also to me. (Good News Translation)