



The Pheobe Ministry

Deaconess Training

Monday, April 20, 2026
7:00PM



Dr. William H. Whitaker, II – Facilitator

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Meeting ID: 964 319 7945 Passcode: CBA1 Conference Call: (301) 715-8592

Geographical Location of Tonight's Text: Cenchrea [Syn-cree-aye]



The New Testament Church in Rome

The New Testament Church to include the Church in Rome was primarily for the _____ "lost sheep of Israel".

²⁴ He [Jesus] answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel."
Matthew 15:24

Purpose of Paul's Letter to the Romans

As Christianity grew, the New Testament Church which was predominately Jewish began discipling _____ believers. The Church in Rome's membership included both Jews and Gentiles who believed in Christ, but came to church for different reasons. Church members had different _____ and _____ that were not consistent with Jewish Law.

One essential message of the book of Romans "_____ the different theologies and religious practices within the Body of Christ."

"Purpose" of Paul's Letter to the Church in Rome

1. Be Unified as One Body in Christ

⁷ Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, so that the promises made to the patriarchs might be confirmed

^{9a} and, moreover, that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy.
Romans 15:7-9a

2. Learn to Worship Christ "Together"

^{9b} As it is written: "Therefore, I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing the praises of your name."

¹⁰ Again, it says, "Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people."

¹¹ And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; let all the peoples extol him."

Romans 15:9b-11

How did Paul Minister to the Church in Rome While on His Mission Trip in Corinth?

Now I introduce and commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deaconess (servant) of the church at Cenchræa [Syn-cree-aye]...
Romans 16:1 (Amplified Bible)

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

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

How did Paul Minister to the Church in Rome While on His Mission Trip in Corinth?



Who Was Deaconess Phoebe?

Her name in Greek means “_____, _____, and _____”.
Scholars speculate that she was...

- Of _____ Decent
- Well-_____
- _____ Aged
- Widowed
- Responsible for the _____ that met in her home in Cenchreae

Traditional Deaconess Duties:

“There is so much more God desires of you!”

The “Traditional” Deaconess...

1. Is the _____ of a Deacon.
2. Supports _____ /deacon in home and church.
3. Assists in the preparation of women for _____.
4. Prepares the _____ for the Lord’s Supper.
5. Ministers to the needs of _____ in the congregation and community.

Deaconess Phoebe’s Journey to Carry the Word to the Church in Rome



Why Did Apostle Paul Entrust Deaconess Pheobe with the Important Task of Carrying the Word to Rome? *Because of her _____, _____, and the _____ work she was known for doing.*

Romans 16:2b (Amplified Bible)

“...she has been a helper of many, including myself.”

What Was Phoebe Known for Doing?

- _____ Others
- Acts of **Kindness**
- _____
- **Spiritual Leadership**
- _____ the church that met in her home in Cenchræe
- **Praying for others**
- Being a _____ _____ for other women, members of her church, and all who believed in Christ.

Why is Deaconess Phoebe So Important to Christianity?

A “_____ of the Word”

Apostle Paul entrusted her to carry the _____ of _____ (the Word of God) to the church in Rome. She lived such a life where Paul _____ to her the important task of carrying the physical Word of God (Romans).

The Phoebe “Deaconess” Ministry

Women led by _____ and trusted by _____ _____ to do the work of the Lord and lead others to Christ.

Understanding *The Phoebe “Deaconess” Ministry* in the Bible

Romans 16:1

Paul’s _____ & ministry _____ with Deaconess Phoebe.

Romans 16:2

Paul's _____ on how the church and ministry leaders should support the Pheobe "Deaconess" Ministry.

Paul's Introduction & Ministry Relationship with Pheobe

1^a Now I introduce and commend to you...

1^b our sister Phoebe,

1^c a deaconess (servant) of the church in Cenchrea...

Romans 16:1a (Amplified Bible)

"Now I introduce and commend to you..."

The Apostle introduces and recommends _____ to the church in Cenchrae. Paul is _____, supporting, and standing beside a woman for leadership in the church.

Reference the ***Spiritual Awareness Analysis for Deaconesses***. *Are you (Deaconesses) living such a life where your Pastors would trust you to lead ministry and present the Word in his/her absence?*

What are some things she (Pheobe) had to overcome in being female, a believer, and a ministry leader in the church?

Romans 16:1b (Amplified Bible)

1^b ...our sister Phoebe...

Paul could have described her as being a believer, fellow-Christian, church member, but he teaches us the importance of _____ and _____ women as being a part of the family of God called the church.

Not Paul's _____ sister, but Paul's _____ sister. Phoebe is Paul's _____ sister, his sister in the Lord.




**Clergy/Associate Minister
“Cross” Training**

Following Pastoral Leadership
& Supporting Your Pastor’s Vision
Monday, April 27, 2026 @ 7:00PM (Zoom Only)

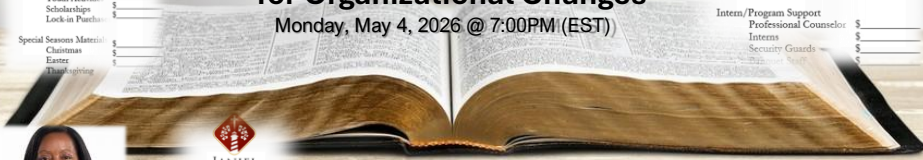



Dr. William H. Whitaker, II- Founder / dr.whitaker@cba1.org / (804) 617-7855 / www.cba1.org
Meeting ID: 964 319 7945 Passcode: CBA1 Conference Call: (301) 715-8592



**Transitional Leadership:
Projecting & Preparing a Budget
for Organizational Changes**

Monday, May 4, 2026 @ 7:00PM (EST)

JANIEL YOUNGBLOOD ASSOCIATES
Janiel E. Youngblood, CPA
Founder & Principal Owner
Richmond, Virginia

Zoom Meeting ID: 964 319 7945 Passcode: CBA1
cba1.org / dr.whitaker@cba1.org / (804) 6177855 / P.O. Box 34424, N. Chesterfield, Va. 23234




**Discerning vs. Deciding:
Seeking God’s Direction During
a Pastoral Transition**


May 18, 2026
7:00PM

Zoom Meeting ID:
964 319 7945

Passcode:
CBA1



Rev. Andrea Chang
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The Juniper Tree Ministry:

Hope, refuge, & support for those serving the Lord from a place of spiritual brokenness.

Instructor:
Dr. William H. Whitaker, II

Monday, June 1, 2026
7:00PM

Zoom Meeting ID:
964 319 7945

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*...he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a juniper tree... And as he lay and slept under a juniper tree, behold, then an angel touched him, and said unto him, Arise and eat.
1 Kings 19:4 - 5 (KJV)*

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The Church Business Administration Network

Facilitators

Rev. Andrea Chang
Anchor & Serenity Consulting
Ontario, Canada

Rev. Nelson Chang
Anchor & Serenity Consulting
Ontario, Canada

Putting Discernment into Practice:
Steps to Guiding Congregations through a Pastoral Transition

June 8, 2026
7:00PM

Info@AnchorAndSerenity.com
<https://www.anchorandserenity.com/>

Zoom Meeting ID: 964 319 7945 Passcode: CBA1 www.cba1.org/ dr.whitaker@cba1.org / (804) 6177855

The Shepherd's Staff
Employment Strategies & Training
for Churches of All Sizes

*...Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me...
Psalm 23:4*

Zoom Meeting ID:
964 319 7945

Passcode:
CBA1

Monday, June 15, 2026
7:00PM

Dr. William H. Whitaker, II
Founder, Director, & Ministry Trainer

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“Church Member” vs. Our “Sister in Christ”. What’s the difference?

How can Pastors, ministry leaders, and church members treat Deaconesses and all women as “*sisters in Christ*” rather than just a “*church member*”?

Romans 16:1c (Amplified Bible)

^{1c} *a deaconess (servant) of the church in Cenchrea...*

Paul’s Instructions to the Church for Supporting the Pheobe “Deaconess” Ministry

Romans 16:2 (Amplified Bible)

^{2a} that you may receive her in the Lord...

^{2b} ...[with love and hospitality], as God’s people ought to receive one another.

^{2c} And that you may help her in whatever matter she may require assistance from you,...

^{2d} ...for she has been a helper of many, including myself.

Romans 16:2a

- That you may _____ **her in the Lord...** (Amplified Bible)
- _____ **her** in the Lord (New Living Translation)
- That you would _____ **her in Our Lord** (Aramaic Bible)
- **Give her a** _____ **welcome** (God’s Word Translation)

“Receive, Welcome, & Accept” the Pheobe Ministry

In what ways do today’s churches make “Pheobes”/Deaconesses feel accepted in ministry?

In what ways do today's churches make "Pheobes"/Deaconesses feel not accepted in ministry?

How the Church is to Receive/Embrace the Deaconess Ministry

Romans 16:2b

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

Deaconesses Treated with Love, Hospitality, and Worthiness

Do churches treat and receive Deaconesses according to Paul's instructions in Romans 16:2b?

Please give one-word descriptions of how today's churches sometimes make Deaconesses feel as Deaconesses of the church.

What the Church is to Do to Support the Deaconess Ministry

Romans 16:2c

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

Deaconesses Ministry Help & Support

Do today's churches openly help and support the Deaconess Ministry according to Apostle Paul's instructions?

In what ways can today's churches and ministry leaders provide greater support for Deaconess Ministries?

- Give her any help she may need from you.
- Help her in whatever she needs.
- Help her in whatever she may need from you.
- Assist her in whatever business she has need of you.
- Assist her in whatever matter she may require your help.
- Provide her with anything she may need.

Deaconess Ministry Image/Reputation

Romans 16:2d

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

Deaconesses Ministry Image/Reputation Questions:

What is the image/reputation of some Deaconess Ministries?

Are today's Deaconess Ministries a reflection of Apostle Paul's description of Deaconess Pheobe?

What can today's Deaconesses do to develop a stronger relationship of trust with their Pastors?



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The Church Business Administration Network

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