



Introduction:

- The church in Jerusalem was growing rapidly and because of the growth the needs of the church were growing as well.
- There was a complaint that some of the widows were being neglected along the lines of race.
- The apostles had to address the situation but knew that they couldn't see to all the needs themselves.
- If they did personally see to all the needs it would require sacrificing on other things so they called the congregation to look among them and select 7 men to serve.

I. From Among Men

- Acts 6:3 – “Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men...”
- 1 Timothy 3:12 – “Let deacons each be the husband of one wife.”
- These are men who come from our congregation

II. A Good Reputation

- In order to know someone's reputation we have to know them.
- Paul's instructions to Timothy (1 Timothy 3)
 - Dignified: _____
 - Not Double-Tongued: _____
 - Not addicted to much wine: _____
 - Not greedy for money: _____
 - Let them be tested: _____

III. Full of the Spirit

- Men who are governed by the Holy Spirit
- Romans 8:9-11: _____
- Galatians 5:16-26? _____
- They hold fast the mystery of faith with a clear conscience (1 Timothy 3).

IV. Full of Wisdom

- We often put great importance on the intellectual side of Christianity but sadly often don't go much further
- Christianity is more than just mere knowledge, although vital, but rather using that knowledge in our lives and families.
- The proving ground is in the home
 - 1 Timothy 3:12 – deacons are men who are married, have children, and manage or rule their households well.
 - They lead their families with the admonition of Paul in Ephesians 5:25, 28-29; 6:4

Conclusion:

- Because we are all saved by God's grace this is not a search for perfect men with perfect families because such thing does not exist.
- If God has shown and put importance on this office and work than we need to be careful we don't neglect to do the same
- The role and work of a deacon is an important role and not one we should take lightly.