

A Life of Service

- Mark 10:45 For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."
- John 12:26 If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.
- Philippians 2:4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.
- 1 Peter 4:10 As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace

ESUS FIRST

Others next

Yourself last

Biblical Definition of a Deacon

- Original Greek Text
- Diakonos a servant, minister
- Translation to English:

- ➤ Official Church Leadership Position Deacon (Male Only)
- Regular Servant of the Church Servant (Male or Female)

Proper Translation Matters

- Romans 16:1 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church at Cenchreae,
- 1 Timothy 3:8 Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain.
- 1 Timothy 3:12(a) Let deacons each be the husband of one wife
- Scriptures do not contradict each other or cause confusion
- The Office of Deacon is a Male only position in the church

Consequences of Improper Translation Romans 16:1

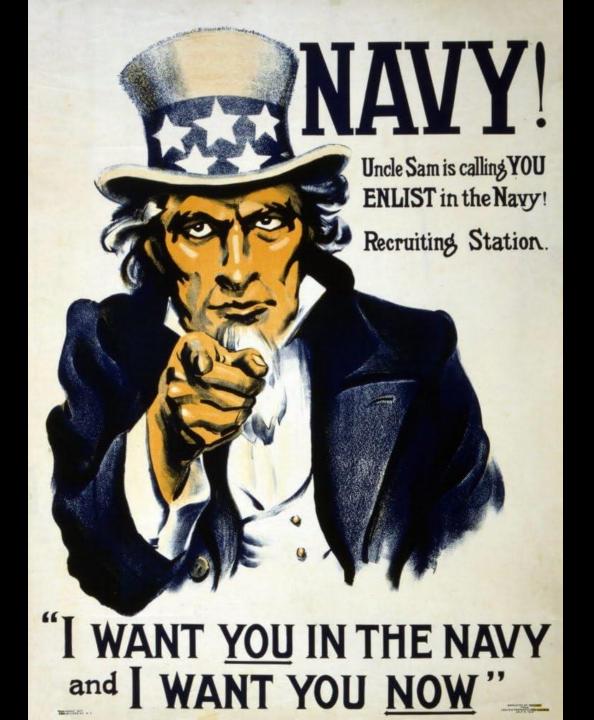
- Correct Translation in Context
- English Standard Version
- King James Version
- New King James Version
- New American Standard
- I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant

- Incorrect Translation out of context
- New International Version
- International Standard Version
- New Living Translation
- Revised Standard Version
- I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon/deaconess

Selection and Appointment of Deacons

• Acts 6:1-6 - Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. ² And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. ³ Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. ⁴But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." ⁵ And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Proch'orus, and Nica'nor, and Timon, and Par'menas, and Nicola'us, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶ These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them.





Scriptural Process of Selection of Deacons

- 1. Need for Deacons in the Church
- 2. Congregation submits/selects names of men given to the elders
- 3. Elders appoint the Deacons to their office/ministry

Acts 6:3 - 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.

Qualifications for Deacons

Character of a Deacon

• 1 Timothy 3:8 - Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain.

Scriptural Knowledge

• 1 Timothy 3:9 - They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.

Experience Matters

• 1 Timothy 3:10 - And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless.

Deacons – Husband and Wife Ministry

• 1 Timothy 3:11-12 - Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. ¹² Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well.

Good Standing and Confidence

• 1 Timothy 3:13 - For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

A Life of Service to Jesus

• Galatians 1:10 - For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.