Looking for a Few Good Men

The biblical calling and qualifications of a Deacon Part 1

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## Acts 6:1-7 (ESV)

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.

Serving people and solving problems takes a certain kind of servant leader:

1. Our problems can lead to God-ordained opportunities (see Acts 5) V1
2. Our priorities must always be Christ and Hos Word. V2
3. Our prerequisites for those who serve as deacons are clear V3a

**Galatians 5:16-21a; 22-23a**

16But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. 17For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. 18But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. 19Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, 20idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, 21envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these… 22But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23gentleness, and self-control…

1. Our procedures should be public and pleasing to all V3b-6
2. Our potential: continued teaching/preaching and disciple making V7