

## INTRODUCTION MINISTRY OF THE DEACON

1. The church as an institution.
2. Assess for church office - [A6:1-6](#)

**1st: The Ministry of the Deacon is Rooted in the Goodness of God**

1. God Identifies w/ the Poor. [Dt 10:17-20](#) note v19 so: imitate Lord
  - i. [Ps 68:5-6] God of orphans, widows, lonely, oppressed: not rebellious
  - ii. [Isa 57:15](#) *lowly* = "poverty" of humility, contrition, need of life.
  - iii. We do not deny material poverty, but define 'poor' biblically.
  - iv. Spectrum of need: material, physical, financial, spiritual.
2. God Provides for Poor. Thru means: His people - [Dt 15:7-11](#). (Mt 26:11)

**2nd: The Ministry of the Deacon is Revealed by Christ**

1. The Prophetic Profile of the Servant (Deacon) of God
  - i. Jesus - "Servant Songs" - [Isa 42:1](#) God's Son is a "deacon."
  - ii. [Lk 4:16-21](#) 1) preaching; 2) benevolence
2. The Purpose of Christ's Servant (Deacon) Ministry
  - i. (Jn 1:18) & (Jn 17:4,26) God of OT is revealed in incarnate Son.
  - ii. [Jn 10:37-38](#) Jesus' deeds reveal Father's goodness & saving purposes.
  - iii. [Mat 9:35-36](#) compassion -> proclaim gospel & meet bodily needs
  - iv. [Rm 12:6-8](#) see ministries of elders & deacons?

**3rd: The Ministry of the Deacon has a Redemptive Purpose**

1. The Promotion of the Kingdom
  - i. [Mt 25:35-40](#) & [Mt 28:18-20](#) not in conflict
  - ii. [A6:7](#) result: growth of church.
    - a. Differentiate elder/deac; ind Xns & Church - institutional authority of Church/State/Family - rlt to culture?! Huge issues.
    - b. *The Primary Mission of the Church*, 2022 - Bryan Estelle. Worship & witness. Categorical clarity.
2. The Principle of Kingdom Priority
  - i. Gospel priority - discrimination.
    - a. Jesus in Lk 4 - Elihah's ministry
    - b. [Mt 25:40](#) *brothers of Mine* = Me. [Gal 6:10](#) God is God over all men, but Father who disciplines sons (Hb 12).
  - ii. Jesus' good works generally resulted in "faith."
  - iii. *poor*: [Mt 5:3-19](#) Benevolence builds platform for gospel proclamation. Gain men's affections & conscience - good will to address sin & salvation.
  - iv. Deacons labor along with elders.

**IN SUM:**

1. A deacon's uniform - [Jn 13:4-5](#)
2. The diaconate is an expression of the goodness of God & the ministry of Jesus designed to complement the ministry of the Word w/ the performance of deeds of mercy & grace. Its purpose is to reveal Christ to men; to advance His kingdom by works of love that strengthen the body of Christ to shine light of gospel.
3. 2 Thes 1:11-12