



Our great privilege and responsibility is to rise and build. [Philippians 1:1](#) provides a great snapshot of a few of the indispensable elements of a healthy church.

Three words to enhance our understanding

- *diakonos* (noun): _____, helper, minister, deacon ([Matt 20:25-26](#); [John 12:26](#))
- *diakoneo* (verb): to serve, care for, help, _____ ([1 Pet 4:10-11](#); [Matt 20:28](#))
- *diakonia* (noun): service or _____ ([1 Cor 16:15](#); [Luke 10:40](#))

When the Bible mentions deacons, what can we learn?

- In the infant days of the church ([Acts 2:42-47](#); [4:32-35](#)) a conflict began to brew ([6:1-7](#)) which, if mishandled, could have led to terrible disruption and division.
 - Physical needs are affirmed, but _____ on the church's spiritual health isn't lost.
 - "Men of good _____, full of the _____ and of _____" are appointed to meet the tangible needs and help preserve the unity of the church.
- As the gospel is proclaimed and elders are appointed in every church ([14:21-23](#)), deacons are needed to recognize and meet a variety of tangible needs ([Phil 1:1](#)).
- By the time we reach [1 Timothy 3](#), we find Paul describing what should happen in every church by emphasizing what sort of men these are to be ([3:8-13](#)).
 - As evangelists serve with hands full of _____ work ([2 Tim 4:1-2, 5](#))...
 - ...and shepherds serve with hands full of _____ work ([1 Pet 5:1-2](#))...
 - ...deacons serve with hands full of tangible work with the same purpose in mind—the building ____ of the _____ of Christ ([Eph 4:12](#)).
- Shepherds _____ ministry, deacons _____ ministry, and the church does the _____ of ministry.