

THE NEW TESTAMENT PLAN OF MINISTRY

Acts 6:1-8

I. THE DEACON'S RESPONSIBILITY

1. (v. 1) They were elected to solve a problem and to meet needs.
 - A. The widows were being neglected of life's necessities.
 - B. James 1:27 – Visitation, ministry, and a pure lifestyle.
 - C. The deacon's job is to meet spiritual and basic needs of people.
2. (v. 3) The Biblical type of men the church & God wants needs are men of good report, full of the Holy Spirit, full of God-given wisdom.
3. (v. 6) The church prayed and ordained these men with the laying on of their hands of blessing.

II. THE PREACHER'S RESPONSIBILITY

1. (v. 2) The preacher's job is to stay in the Word of God.
2. (v. 4) The preachers were to give themselves to prayer, study, and the proclamation of God's Word.
3. People have gotten all confused about what the preacher's job is.
4. It's the church's responsibility is ministering to needy folks, in the church and surrounding community.
5. The pastor is to be an example, but he is to equip the church to carry out the work of ministry as stated in Ephesians 4:11-16.
6. Balanced church growth implements the NT ministry by pastors equipping the saints and, as they minister together, God blesses.
7. To build a lighthouse for God, you must abide by the NT pattern.

III. THE RESULT WHEN THE DEACONS, LAITY, AND PREACHER DO OUR BIBLICAL JOBS

1. (v. 7a) The proclamation of God's word kept increasing.
2. (v. 7b) The number of disciples kept on increasing.
3. (v. 7c) Many priests were even becoming obedient to the faith.
4. (v. 8) The spirit-filled deacon made a great impression for God.

Conclusion:

Look what God does when the laity and preachers work together to follow God's pattern for His church.