

## ***The Importance of the Diaconate*** **Acts 6:1-7**

### Main Point:

Given their vital importance, be thankful and pray for the deacons Jesus has provided to serve among us.

1. The meeting of physical needs is an important part of the church's ministry.

2. Jesus has appointed the office of deacon to address these needs in particular.

3. Be thankful and pray for the deacons who have been provided to serve among us.

**Dennis Johnson** “The apostles did not dismiss the Greek-speaking Christians as malcontents. Instead they addressed the problem seriously and promptly.”

**James 1:27** <sup>27</sup> Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, *and* to keep oneself unspotted from the world. (NKJV)

**Derek Thomas** “The task of mercy ministry is too important to address casually. It is an extension of the mercy of Jesus to those in the flock who are weak and helpless, and those who administer it need to be Christlike in their approach.”

**RP Testimony 25.11** “The diaconate is a spiritual office subordinate to the session and is not a teaching or ruling office. The deacons have responsibility for the ministry of mercy, the finances and property of the congregation, and such others tasks as are assigned to them by the session.”

**Derek Thomas** “Church growth through faithful and earnest proclamation of the Word of God requires a vibrant diaconate.”