

Session 2
A Deacon Ministry that Works Is
Ministry Oriented

Discussion Notes:

1. The only thing wrong with the "board" concept is that it just isn't

_____.

2. A New Testament church is a _____ form of government.

- A. Presbyterian
- B. Authoritarian
- C. Congregational

What are some of the implications of the board concept of ministry?

What is NOT the business of the church?

What were some of the ways we see ministry occurring in the early church?

3. Ministry is a _____ relationship.

4. What text is commonly used to determine the qualifications for deacons?

- A. 1 Corinthians 13:4-7
- B. Matthew 5:1-12
- C. 1 Timothy 3:8-13

5. The qualifications of the seven are the basic qualifications for deacons. They are...

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____
- D. _____

6. The ministry of the church is a _____ ministry.

Group Learning Time

1. Select words or phrases that describe the way you perceive a deacon body that seeks to be servants.

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| A. weak | J. caring |
| B. elevated | K. biblical |
| C. concerned | L. bureaucratic |
| D. undignified | M. humble |
| E. giving | N. place of honor |
| F. exemplary | O. spiritual |
| G. hard-working | P. unselfish |
| H. business-like | Q. administrative |
| I. strong | R. efficient |

2. How do you rate our Deacon Ministry? To what degree is it like a board of Directors? To what degree is it like a servant body?

Board of Directors

Servant Body

To what degree do you practice the board of directors concept in your own ministry? Servant concept?

Board Concept

Servant Concept

Case Study

Pastor Mark went to his first church out of seminary. Idealistically and excited, he accepted the call to pastor the Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church in southeast Alabama. Mt. Pisgah averages about 100 in Sunday School.

His first six months were a dream. Significant growth took place. The one dark spot was the children's Sunday School director, Mrs. Thatcher, who was notorious for her unpleasant disposition and inability to work with others. Recently, two key workers stepped down because of Mrs. Thatcher's sour attitude.

Pastor Mark visited Mrs. Thatcher on a conciliatory mission, but Mrs. Thatcher cut him off with this statement: "Young man, I was a member here long before you were born, and I'll still be teaching long after you've gone from here."

Pastor Mark snaps, "We'll about about that. As far as I am concerned, you no longer have a leadership position at Mt. Pisgah."

Mrs. Thatcher asked him to leave, and Brother Mark knew that she would be on the phone immediately.

As a deacon, you quickly receive word of this conflict. Action must be taken.

A. How do you offer counsel and encouragement to Pastor Turner?

B. What steps can the deacons take to avoid escalating conflict?