

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for March 17-18, 2001

The Epistle of Joy

Philippians 1:1-2

Dale Whitehead

The Deacons

The word "deacon" (*diakonos*) means "servant."

The word "deacon" in its more technical usage is an officially recognized servant in the church.

Church problems give us the opportunity to examine our ministry and discover what changes must be made.

Church problems give us an opportunity to exercise our faith trusting God that He will work through the leaders that He has established.

Church problems give us the opportunity to express our love.

Deacons provide a complimentary service to the elders who bear the overall burdens of oversight. Without the deacons the elders would no longer be able to see the forest for the trees.

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The goal of Valley Bible Church is to have every existing ministry overseen by a deacon.

There are two criteria that we use when selecting deacons.

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They must fulfill the qualifications of 1 Timothy 3:8-12.

The second criteria is that before they are formally recognized they must demonstrate that they can faithfully and effectively lead the ministry that they will be overseeing as a deacon.