

JACKSON CHURCH OF CHRIST Family Matters

May 14, 2023

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<u>Minister</u>

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<u>Deacons</u>

George Clark Nate Crowden Greg Dowdy Charlie Kluesner Doug Lester Brian Mitchell Todd Newman Kenny Simmons Scott Spraggs

Lessons for Today

AM: Brian Mitchell "The Qualification and Work of Deacons" 1 Timothy 3:8-13

PM: Brian Mitchell

"Inheriting the Kingdom of God" 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

The Qualifications and Work of Deacons

This is a very important time for this congregation. It is a time for us as a congregation either to: carefully and biblically select men who will lead this congregation into the future for the next 20 or more years or to be preparing ourselves to take on the role of leadership. So, it is my hope and prayer that over the next 6-8 weeks or so we will all pay careful attention to the next 2 weeks lessons so that we have a good understanding of who elders and deacons are, what they are to do and most importantly what biblical qualities of character and family MUST be present in their lives.

We must give careful consideration to men in this congregation to make sure that they have these qualities. AND then make sure they are willing to serve. AND then submit their names to the proper people for further examination. AND perhaps most importantly make sure you pray constantly asking for God's help as we seek to move forward with our work here. Today, it is my job, to talk about deacons: who they are, what kind of men they are and what kind of wives they have.

What we notice immediately from the list of qualifications in 1 Timothy 3 is that the qualifications for the deacon are very similar to the qualification of the elder—1 Tim.3:8-13. In fact, the some of the words are synonymous. This does not mean that a deacon is a junior elder, or that the work and role are the same, but would seem to indicate that both are spiritually qualified to do spiritual work.

The distinctions stand out in the designations given: The elder is a more experienced man than the deacon. He is also given the responsibility to oversee, and to shepherd. The deacon is not an overseer or a shepherd (pastor). What kind of man should be appointed? I think we could view the character of the deacon comprehensively as a zealous person. He is kicking up dust – He is eagerly serving in these three areas of his life: he is zealous in his faith, for his family and in his work.

So, what about you, whom do you serve? You might be tempted to say no one! But the reality is that we either serve ourselves, or we serve God. We either serve righteousness or we serve sinful passions. Rom.6:16-18 – "Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? 17 But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. 18 And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness."

The Christians at Rome were serving sin (slaves), but they obeyed from the heart (sincerely) that form of doctrine that was delivered to them by the apostle Paul. He told them about the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. They died to sin, were buried in baptism, and rose again to a new life with Christ. At that moment they began serving righteousness. So, what about you, who are you serving?

Brian Mitchell

Worship Times

Sunday Bible Class: 9:00 am

AM Worship: 10:00 am PM Worship: 6:00 pm

Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 pm

For the Record

Sunday Class: 88 Sunday AM: 142 Sunday PM: 80 Wednesday PM: 68 Contribution: \$3639 Budget: \$4831

Weekly Wísdom

She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future. When she speaks, her words are wise, and she gives instructions with kindness. **Proverbs 31:25-26**

Celebrating This Week...

<u>Birthdays</u> Kenny Simmons: 05.15 Asa Campbell: 05.16 Newt Gilliland: 05.16 Kathy Green: 05.16

<u>Anniversaries</u>

Todd & Jenny Newman: 05.16 Jeff & Ashlee Garland: 05.20

Serving This Week	Remember in Prayer
Announcements: Phil Singleton SUNDAY Greeters: Phil & Sondra Swiney Ushers: Shawn Myers/Cody Naramore A/V: Luke Selvig Nursery: Terri Bryan Lead Singing: Seth Spraggs Head Lord's Table: Randy Seabaugh Scripture: Michael Newman Prayers: AM: Larry Dowdy/Kenny Simmons PM: Ron Fehr/John McLain	 Kathy Green's niece, Sandra Shell had surgery last week to remove a tumor from her brain stem. Please keep Barbara Brown and her family in your prayers as her oldest sister, Mary Jo Parker was recently diagnosed with cancer. She is not expected to live more than about a month. Melissa Brown had a follow-up appointment after her recent surgery and is continuing to heal and recover well. Darlene Bartolo will have a nerve conduction test on Monday and asks that we pray that it will be helpful in determining treatment for her arm. Allen & Juanita Hedge are still home recovering from recent illnesses.
WEDNESDAYLead Singing: Christopher NewmanDevo: Scott WatsonPrayer: Doug LesterElder Chair: David SelvigCommunion to Shut-Ins: Scott SpraggsWorship Organizer: Nate Crowden	Updates • We will be updating and restarting our "Continuing Prayer Needs" list over the next couple of weeks. Please contact the office if you have someone listed that can be removed or if you'd like to keep them on the list or add someone new. Thank you for helping us keep this list up to date.
Chronologícal Bíble Reading May 14: Psalms 32, 51, 86, 122 May 15: 2 Samuel 13-15 May 16: Psalms 3-4, 12-13, 28, 55 May 17: 2 Samuel 16-18 May 18: Psalms 26, 40, 58, 61-62, 64 May 19: 2 Samuel 19-21 May 20: Psalms 5, 38, 41-42	 News & Notes Children's Homes item of the week: Liquid Fabric Softener Thank you so much to all who donated to the Glen Allen tornado relief. \$8000 have been collected: \$4000 is being sent to The Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Fund and \$4000 is going to Bank of Missouri Relief Outreach for continued support of those in need. Thank you again for your generosity.
Continuing Prayer Needs**Contact the office with updates**Allen familyFrancis IvanovichGinger AveryDiana IvanovichEsther BeckBetty JonesShannon BirkScott LanpherMark BlaylockSid NaramoreDalton BryanCarolyn NeeseReita ConleyWanda RaperBill DillmanSusan SeabaughNewt & Kay GillilandSteve SimmonsJalonda HarrisLee SimpsonAllen & Juanita HedgeDon TawneySonny HuskeyChris Weaver	Elder/Deacon Selection Psalm 90:10 says, "As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years. Or if due to strength eighty years" With 4 of 6 shepherds in the circumstances that Moses wrote of in this Psalm, it is time to add some younger men. In any earthy enterprise, the time comes when a transition to the next generation becomes inevitable. With prayer, God's wisdom, and the experience of the present shepherds, the changing of the guard will ensure a strong future for the Lord's body at Jackson. Today marks the beginning of the selection of additional shepherds and deacons. The timetable for this process is: May 14: Brian will present a lesson on deacon qualifications May 21: Steve will present a lesson on elder qualifications May 21-June 4: Names may be submitted to any current deacon June 4-11: Deacons will interview nominees June 11-25: Elders will conduct final interviews with those willing to serve
HAPPY MOLHERSDAY	June 25-July 9: Men presented to congregation for consideration July 9: Installation of new deacons and elders Celebrate With Our Grads May 14: Crissy Gilliland party at Bent Creek; 4-6pm (come & go) May 21: Emily Newman lunch at Newmans' home; 12-2pm *PLEASE RSVP to Jenny for planning* May 28: Hannah Mitchell party at Cape Co. Park North #4; 1-3pm May 29: Katelyn Dowdy party at Cape Co. Park South #22; 1-4pm