

One Word – DEACONS

By Roger Comstock

Scripture Readings: Phil. 1:1; Acts 6; 1 Tim. 1-5; 1 Tim. 3:8-13

As we just recently studied, Paul instructed Titus to go to Crete and “set in order the things that are wanting” (Tit. 1:5). Paul then proceeded to explain to him the qualities in a man that he should seek out to be an elder.

Similarly, the great apostle told Timothy “how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God” (1 Tim. 3:15 NKJV). He then, proceeded to give Timothy the Christian characteristics of men who could serve as elders and deacons.

As we studied last week about the office of elders, we looked at the various names given that office and defined them, stating that those definitions describe the actual work that God intends for elders.

This week’s *One Word* study is on the word “deacon”. The word “deacon” comes from the Greek word *diakonos*. *Diakonos* is translated 20 times as minister, 8 times as servant, and 5 times as deacon/s. Literally translated *diakonos* means servant.

Follow with me for a moment; if you are playing any kind of game that has stated / written rules, should you depart from those rules, are you still playing the named game. And, if you depart from the rules in one aspect, does it matter how many times you depart from the stated rules thereafter?

The reason I’ve asked the above question is, when we look at the denominational religions around us, they have departed from the stated rules, God’s inspired Word, in many areas.

One area of departure from the Word is in the organization or structure that God intends for His church. The biblical concept of rule by qualified elders is ignored. Though they may use the term “pastor”, they do not use the term or the office as holy scripture instructs, the way Paul told Titus and Timothy to “set in order.” I know a man who was asked when he was 18 years old, childless, and single to serve as an elder in a denomination.

Our *One Word* is “deacon”. There is not any scriptural authority for a “Board of Deacons”. In fact, there is no authority in scripture that would indicate that deacons have any decision-making authority and yet in many denominations the “Board of Deacons” is a governing body whose members may or may not meet the qualifications which Paul gave to Timothy to set things in order.

As I stated above, if we depart from one rule or ten rules, is it truly still the same game? If we depart from God’s “rules” then are we His church. Deacons are to serve under the oversight of elders who direct them as to how they, the deacons, are to serve the church.

Too often, in the Lord’s church, we have elders deaconing and deacons doing nothing.

GATLINBURG CHURCH OF CHRIST

109 W Ogle Drive - P. O. Box 361 - Gatlinburg TN 37738

Sunday, July 1, 2018



A church where the Bible is believed and taught.

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"What The Bible Says"

**With Roger Comstock Every Sunday on Sevier County
Cable TV Channel 193 at 8:00 AM, 1:30 PM & 7:00 PM**



**WJFS-LP 101.1 FM is
on the air & on our website.**

www.gatlinburgchurchofchrist.com

Welcome visitors . . .

Thank you for choosing to worship God with us today. We are often blessed with visitors from many congregations around our nation. We are grateful for every one of you and pray your worship at Gatlinburg will be uplifting and edifying. Please tune-in to our radio station **WJFS-LP 101.1 FM** while in Gatlinburg and visit our website at www.gatlinburgchurchofchrist.com.

Remember In Prayer . . .

Please continue to pray for **Jim Chandler, Marilyn Chandler, John and Montie Downs**. Others who have expressed a interest in our prayers are Jack Parton, Elisa Luna, Joshua Stokes, Barbara Lemay, Michael Miller, Joyce Kaiser, Ann and Guy Noe.

Cell Phones . . . Please silence your cell phones so that they do not ring during worship services.

EARLY SERVICE

8:30 AM

Roger Comstok will make the announcemnts. Leading singing today will be **David Nixon**. Opening prayer will be led by **Jim chandler**. **Woody Luna** will preside at the Lord's table today. Serving the congregation will be **David Barton, David Nixon**, and **Jim Chandler**. **David Barton** has the closing prayer.

SECOND SERVICE

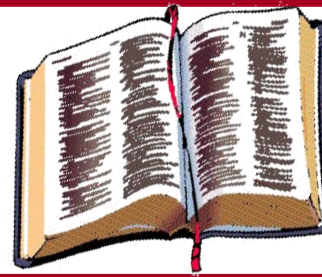
10:30 AM

Roger Comstock will make the announcements. Leading singing will be **David Nixon**. Opening prayer will be led by **Grayson Rhodes**. **Merrill Austin** will preside at the Lord's table today. Serving the congregation will be **Richard Sortore, Grayson Rhodes and Randy Vernon**. Closing prayer by **Randy Vernon**.

EVENING SERVICE

6:00 PM

Roger Comstock will make the announcements. Leading singing will be **David Nixon**. Opening prayer will be led by **Randy Vernon**. **Merrill Austin** will preside at the Lord's table tonight. **Richard Sortore** will lead the closing prayer.



TODAY'S SERMONS . . .

Sunday Morning:

"Exploring Calvary

—The Bartered Brute"

Sunday Evening:

"One Word—Deacons"

Men's Monthly Business Meeting . . .

The July men's business meeting will be next Sunday, July 8 th at 4:00 pm. All the men are encourage to attend.

July Ladies Bible Class . . .

The Ladies Bible class for July will be **Tuesday, July 10th** at 10:00 here at the church building. The lesson is number11 titled "My Peace I Give Unto You." Bring a friend.

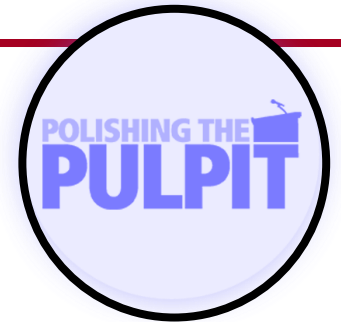
Polishing The Pulpit . . .

August 17 thru August 23, 2018

RENEW . . .

REFRESH . . .

RECHARGE . . .



Records . . . Last Lord's Day 46 attended Bible classes, 123 for morning worship and 35 for evening worship. The contribution was \$1,745. The attendance for midweek Bible Study was 29.

Pantry Items . . . Giver's choice

Gatlinburg Schedule of Services

Sunday	8:30 A.M.	Early Worship
	9:30 A.M.	Bible Study
	10:30 A.M.	Morning Worship
	6:00 P.M.	Evening Worship
Wednesday	7:00 P.M.	Bible Study