

Ordination Service

If read by an elder.
5 minutes read time

Thank you for remaining for this special service of ordination.

The Bible in Acts 6:1-6 records how the apostles appointed seven men to specific tasks in order to meet growing demands. Every scriptural church must have elders and deacons. Cedar Grove is no exception. It takes time for people to grow spiritually and to mature in the faith. Furthermore, the elders continually evaluate the needs of this congregation and look for ways to improve efficiency for the well-being of the flock. No man can successfully perform a duty needed unless first appointed to that work and recognized to be worthy of that task. The ability to perform a task is inherent in the qualification the man possesses. Moreover, the public appointment grants to him the power or right to do that work. Additionally, this appointment recognizes his position to accomplish the work for which he is qualified.

Some number of months ago, we made plans to begin looking for new deacons to serve Cedar Grove. In November, we asked David, our preacher, to present some lessons to inform the congregation about the role, function and qualifications of deacons. In December, we asked you, the congregation, to submit names of men you felt were qualified. We examined these men and their families and met with them to discuss the importance of their work. In January, we announced their names and requested to know any reason that prevented them from serving as a deacon. Today, after much consideration with prayer, we announce that the following four men will be appointed as our new deacons: Ronnie Dixon, Marvin Hicks, Rick Kyle and Monty Russell. Will these four men stand where they are?

To this end, we issue a charge to the deacons:

The office of deacon is a place of aspiration, but not arrival. You are to be commended for your recognition of love, service, devotion and faithfulness to Cedar Grove and the Lord's kingdom. You have been tested, tried and proved and have been found to be capable of serving as a minister. You are now a deacon, a servant, "one who executes the command of another." We will entrust you with specific responsibility. And you, in turn, will report to us your goals, desires, results and any problems that may arise. Your duty is one of active service under the oversight of shepherds. Although you will have a primary task, it should not keep you from

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performing others works as a Christian. Having been selected worthy of this position, we now charge you to accept this responsibility and to serve as long as your health and faith allows. You may be seated.

Additionally, we issue a charge to the congregation:

Deacons are important to the work, success and growth of the church. Since these additions to the list of deacons have been made, then the needs of Cedar Grove will be met, we can focus on shepherding and visiting, unity can go forward and the church can continue to grow. Deacons attend to specific tasks assigned by the eldership who oversees and follows up to ensure that those ministries are being served. If you have a need, we now charge you to talk to one of the deacons serving that ministry.

Finally, pray for your shepherds and deacons so that Cedar Grove will remain steadfast in faith and devoted in love and hope.

Let us pray together.

February 12, 2006