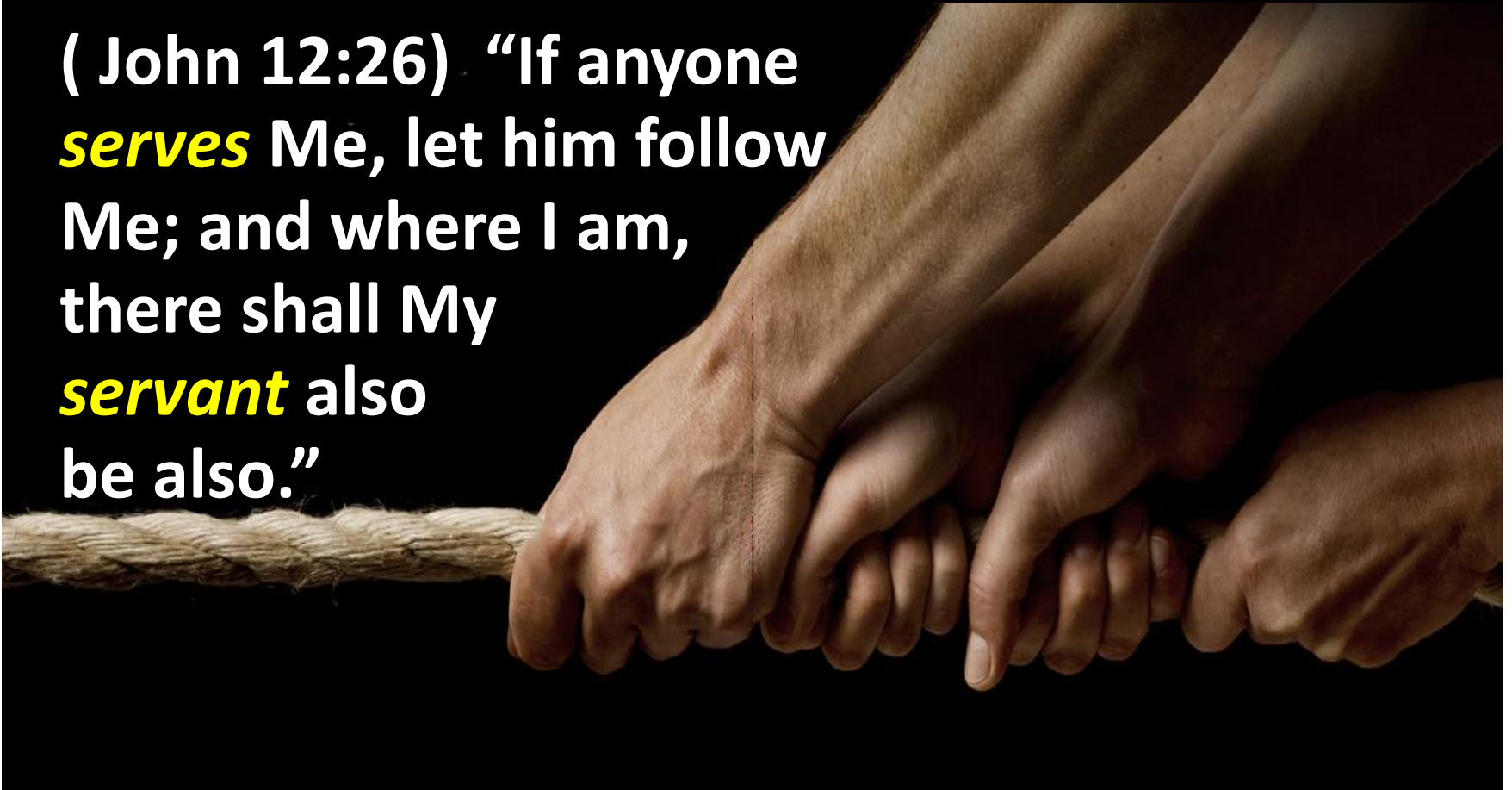


The MOTIVATION TO SERVE

(John 12:26) “If anyone *serves* Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there shall My *servant* also be also.”



Everybody is a Servant

Greek [**Diakonos**]: A servant in any capacity.

Apostle: (Mt 20:16) Great.. shall be your **servant**

Waiter: (John 2:5) Mother said to the **servants**

Christians (John 12:26) Any serve.. be my **servant**

Gov't (Rom 13:4) For He is a **minister** of God

Woman (Rom 16:1) Phoebe a **servant** of Church

Corrupt teachers (2 Cor 11:15) Satan's.. **servants**

Preacher (1 Tim 4:6) You will be a good **servant**

Church deacon (1 Tim 3:8) **Deacons** must be men

In each case it's the sing. or pl. of [**Diakonos**]

The Attitude to Serve

Do you **LOVE** this congregation?
(2 Thess 1:3) “The **love** of each one of you toward one another grows ever greater.”

Do you have a **Diligent** disposition?
(Prov 10:26) “Like vinegar to the teeth and smoke to the eyes, is the **lazy** person...”

Do you have a **Sacrificial** spirit?
(Rom 12:1) “Present your bodies a living and holy **sacrifice**...”

Selecting Servants



They don't have to memorize
the **WHOLE Bible.**

Just grow!
(1 Pet 1:2)



They demonstrate
their **Reliability** and
Willingness to Work. (2 Cor 8:22)

They are **Ethical, Dedicated, Christians.**
Their **wives are Respected.** (1 Tim 3:8-12)

Motivation to Serve

1. RESPECT & CONFIDENCE:

1 Tim 3:13 Those who have **served well** as deacons obtain for themselves **a high standing & great confidence** in the faith..

Serve Well: Not just occupy the office.

High Standing — Gain respect, esteem in the church as a reward of Godly service.

Great confidence — You're on the right track **AND** a 100 saints KNOW you are !

Motivation to Serve

2. Deacons are **IMPORTANT**

- You are **IMPORTANT**—because the **TEN QUALIFICATIONS** are important !
(1 Tim 3:8-9, 11-12)

- You are **IMPORTANT**—because you are **PROVED** men ! (1 Tim 3:10).
You've lived it.

- You are **IMPORTANT**— because the **RESPONSIBILITIES** (1 Cor 10:33) you carry out are important. It impacts the church greatly.



Servant's Attitudes

A. Men given assignments should be positive, optimistic & Encouraging.
(1 Thes 5:11a; Heb 12:12-14)

B. The servants in Acts 6 were filled with Wisdom, (Acts 6:3). They mended fences and cemented relations.

C. Deacons have Good Reputations (Acts 6:3)
They are kind, generous, thoughtful, problem-solvers. They are the sweetness and loveliness in a congregation. (2 Pet 1:7) *Note: TLB*



Servant's Heart

Jesus was
one who
served
(Mt 20:28).

Servants
are beautiful
because they
are the expres-
sion of God's heart.

A Servant
is more than
a title. It's a
concept
of life.

He went about
doing good
and healing
(Acts 10:38)

Servant's Authority

Deacons have **Limited Authority** (Rev 3:8; Acts 6:3b)



Servants **submit** to the elders (Heb 13:17)
(1 Pet 5:3) Not domineering, overbearing.

Deacons are NOT **crusaders** for special interest- groups. Not factious (Titus 3:10)

It's not about Pride & Power but **Service**.
(Mt 20:21) Sit on Right & Left hand.

What Servants Must Learn



They must learn to **GET ALONG** with other deacons, elders, preachers & members. (Mat 5:9)

They must learn to **REST** too. (Mk 6:31)
Jesus said “Come apart & **rest** awhile.”

Deacons are **NOT** to be the “Weary servants of the Impossible.” They must be able ***enjoy life too.*** (Eccles 5:18)

Be God's
Servant

In God's
Place

Doing God's
Work

In God's
Way

