

Know and Do—Understanding the Church (Series Outline from Capitol Hill Baptist Church)

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| 1. Week 1: "Unity in the Church" | 8. Week 8: "Responding to Leadership" |
| 2. Week 2: "Church Membership" | 9. Week 9: "Church Discipline" |
| 3. Week 3: "Diversity in the Body" | 10. Week 10: "Building One Another Up" |
| 4. Week 4: "Right Preaching" | 11. Week 11: "Serving in the Church" |
| 5. Week 5: "Church Governance" | 12. Week 12: "Corporate Worship" |
| 6. Week 6: "Biblical Fellowship" | 13. Week 13: "Discipleship—Making and Growing" |
| 7. Week 7: "Handling Dissatisfaction" | |

Understanding the Church, Week 5: "Church Governance" (know portion)

I. Who _____ the church?

- A. "And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, 'It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.'" — **Acts 6:2–4**
- B. "Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution." — **Acts 12:1**

C. Two main functions of a deacon

i. _____

ii. _____

D. Two main functions of a pastor/elder/overseer

i. _____

ii. _____

II. What _____ of people are called to lead the church?

- A. "The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil."—**1 Timothy 3:1–7**
- B. "Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus."—**1 Timothy 3:8–13**
- C. "...who *is* sufficient for these things?" – **2 Corinthians 2:16**
- D. "As it is written: 'There is none righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.'" – **Romans 3:10-12**
- E. Who is reverent? Who is not greedy? Who is truly hospitable? Who is blameless? Who do you know that is blameless? "You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin." – **1 John 3:5**
- F. "And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him"— **Colossians 1:21–22**

III. How should we treat church leaders? Hold them to a _____ but no higher than _____ holds them.

- A. "I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that, if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth. Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness: He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory."— **1 Timothy 3:14–16**

Understanding the Church, Week 5: “Church Governance” (do portion)

1. In a congregationally led church, what is the relationship between the church body and the pastors/elders?
2. What is the biblical relationship between the pastors/elders and the deacons? How are their roles meant to complement each other?
3. What are the two main functions of the deacon ministry found in Acts 6:1–4?
 - a. Why is it important for deacons to fulfill these functions well?
 - b. What can happen to a church if a deacon fails to operate as a peacemaker?
4. What are the two main functions of a pastor/elder? What happens if he fails to operate well in those functions?
5. Where in Scripture are the qualifications for pastors/elders and deacons located?
6. Why is it important to remember that pastors/elders and deacons, though held to a different standard, are still in a process of sanctification?
7. What can happen to a church that fails to address unbiblical teaching or actions from its pastors/elders or deacons?
 - a. What might lead a church to endure such a thing rather than addressing it?
 - b. Read 1 Timothy 5:17–22. What is the proper way to address a pastor/elder who is heading in an unbiblical direction?
8. As a church member, how might you give grace and support to your pastors/elders and deacons?