



SERMON NOTES

Serving God's Way

Sunday, September 13, 2026 • Acts 6:1-8

Would you recommend you to be a responsible, accountable, contributing member to another church family — based on how you have used the gifts of the Spirit to serve the Body?

NOTE: vs 1-2 “serving food” and “in order to serve” = “D_____”

Why did the disciples make such a big deal about choosing someone to distribute food?

POINT 1: Serving God's Way — Jn. 13:3-17 NIV

Oswald Chambers: "If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. —John 13:14. Ministering in Everyday Opportunities. The things Jesus did were the most menial of everyday tasks, and this is an indication that it takes all of God's power in me to accomplish even the most common tasks in His way. Can I use a towel as He did? Towels, dishes, sandals, and all the other ordinary things in our lives reveal what we are made of more quickly than anything else. It takes God Almighty Incarnate in us to do the most menial duty as it ought to be done."

What is Jesus saying? Jn. 15:4-5; Jn. 6:63

Oswald Chambers — WARNING: "Notice the kind of people that God brings around you, and you will be humiliated once you realize that this is actually His way of revealing to you the kind of person you have been to Him. Now He says we should exhibit to those around us exactly what He has exhibited to us."

POINT 2: Functioning Kingdom Servants — Acts 6:3-5 AMP

Distributing Food in Church Required the Following Characteristics

- Good reputations, godly character, and moral integrity
- Full of the Spirit
- Full of Wisdom

F_____ **AS S**_____.

NOTE: The titles of Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Shepherd/Pastor, and Teacher — were not honorary titles handed out by the Apostles, nor the NT Churches — they were Descriptors of how they were Recognized by the leaders, and members of the church — AND how they Functioned in the Body.

From Servants to A_____, R_____ Minister~Servants of the Church Family: 1 Tim. 3:8-13

John MacArthur: "Even though they were primarily handling practical, administrative duties like food distribution, the early church recognized that managing church affairs and caring for the vulnerable required intense spiritual maturity. Because Paul was writing to Timothy to structure the church under those same foundational principles, the expectation of being Spirit-led was already an established baseline. Instead of using the broad phrase "filled with the Spirit," Paul chose to list the observable, practical evidence of a Spirit-filled life. The character traits he demands in 1 Timothy 3 closely mirror the "fruit of the Spirit" mentioned in his other letters (like Galatians 5): Self-Control: He notes they must not be "addicted to much wine". Integrity & Peace: They must not be "double-tongued" (sincere, not gossiping or hypocritical). Generous: They must not be "greedy for dishonest gain." To Paul, a person could not realistically possess or maintain these qualities without being actively transformed by the Holy Spirit."

John MacArthur: "'Hold the Mystery of the Faith.'" In Pauline theology, the deep truths of the gospel (the "mystery") cannot be truly understood, held, or guarded by human intellect alone—it requires the illumination of the Holy Spirit (see 1 Corinthians 2:10-14). Ultimately, Paul did not lower the spiritual bar for deacons; rather, he gave Timothy a practical checklist to identify people whose lives proved they were already walking in the Spirit."

ACTION:

Make a list of people in our church fellowship who serve our church family. Make a list of those you know who serve others — like Jesus; those who meet the characteristics Paul required:

POINT 3: Spirit-Filled Servants

What did a Christian look like who wasn't FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT?

Characteristics of Spirit-Filled Followers of Jesus

1. **K** _____ Jesus and Point others to Jesus — whether by word or action (Jn. 17:3; Acts 1:8)
2. **D** _____, and C _____ by Love for Jesus, His Word (Manifesting the Fruits of Spirit)
3. **L** _____ by the Spirit (Rom. 8:14)
4. Extravagant W _____ and A H _____ for Worship (Eph. 5:18-20)
5. **G** _____ in the Things of the Spirit (2 Peter 1:3-11; 1 Cor. 2:10-16)
6. **S** _____ to Authority (Eph. 5:21)
7. **M** _____ the Holy Spirit (Bold Witness; Gifts; Speech & Action; Service)
8. **P** _____ Holiness & Purity
9. **G** _____ Givers

► Video: Brother Lawrence

What was the NT church's understanding of someone Filled with the Spirit?

POINT 4: Stephen and Philip — Examples of the Spirit-Filled Life

Stephen: "Stephen, a man full of faith [in Christ Jesus], & [filled with & led by] the Holy Spirit"

What did Spirit filled look like to the NT Believers? Acts 6:8-10; 15; Acts 6:54-60

Philip: Acts 8:5-7; 12-13; 26-40; 21:8

What did Spirit-Filled, Controlled and Led — look like — in Philip?

| "Philip's function in the church and outside the church — changed. He functioned as an Evangelist."