



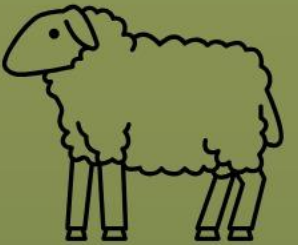
How We Gather



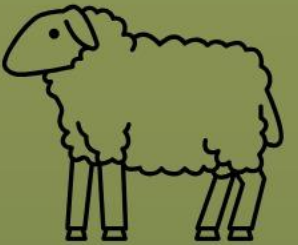
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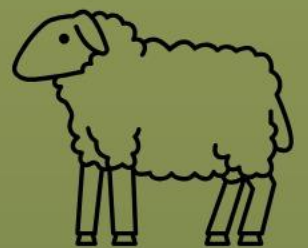
Acts 6:1-7

1 Timothy 3:8-13



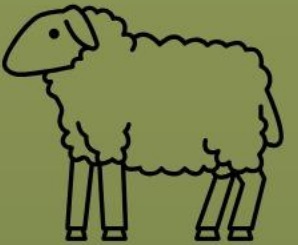




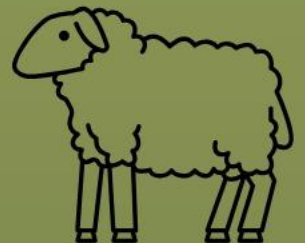






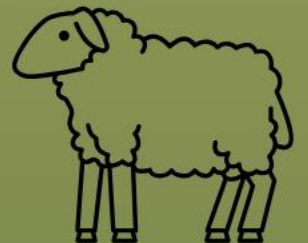


WHAT IS A DEACON? (*diakonos*) - an attendant; minister to or servant i.e. a waiter



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Recognized servants of Christ and his church

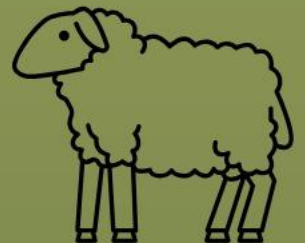


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PRACTICAL CARE

They help meet tangible
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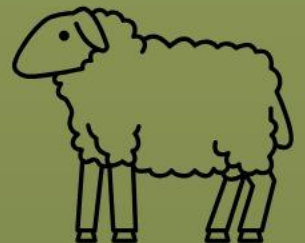
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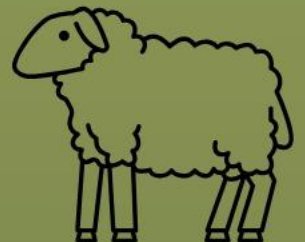
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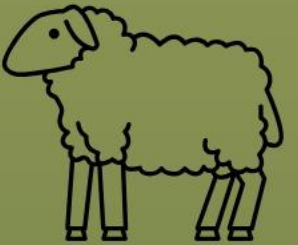
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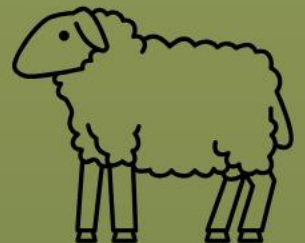
SUPPORT

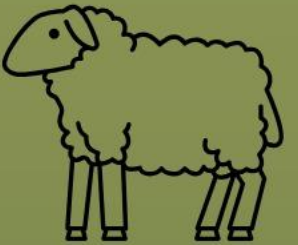
They free elders to focus on prayer and the Word.





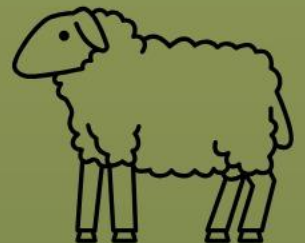
Acts 6 - In those days, as the disciples were increasing in number, there arose a complaint by the Hellenistic Jews against the Hebraic Jews that their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution. 2 The Twelve summoned the whole company of the disciples and said, “It would not be right for us to give up preaching the word of God to wait on tables. 3 Brothers and sisters, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and wisdom, whom we can appoint to this duty. 4 But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” 5 This proposal pleased the whole company. So they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a convert from Antioch. 6 They had them stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. 7 So the word of God spread, the disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly in number, and a large group of priests became obedient to the faith.

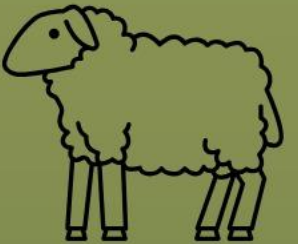




1 Timothy 3:8-13

8 Deacons, likewise, should be worthy of respect, not hypocritical, not drinking a lot of wine, not greedy for money, 9 holding the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. 10 They must also be tested first; if they prove blameless, then they can serve as deacons. 11 Wives, likewise, should be worthy of respect, not slanderers, self-controlled, faithful in everything. 12 Deacons are to be husbands of one wife, managing their children and their own households competently. 13 For those who have served well as deacons acquire a good standing for themselves and great boldness in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

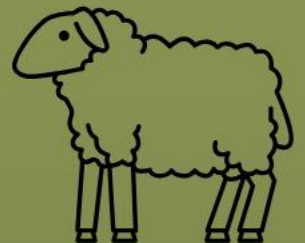




HOW WE GATHER: DEACONS

03

1. Why does the church need deacons?

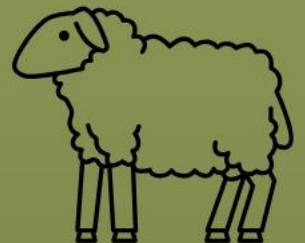


HOW WE GATHER: DEACONS

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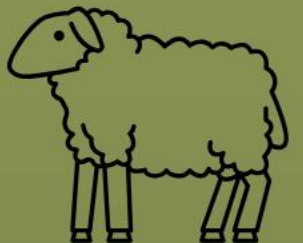


HOW WE GATHER: DEACONS

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B. Needs can become **distractions**



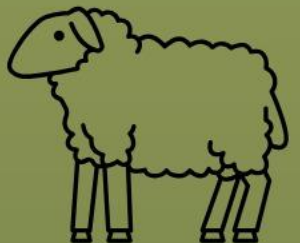
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C. The church needs different **members** doing different **things**



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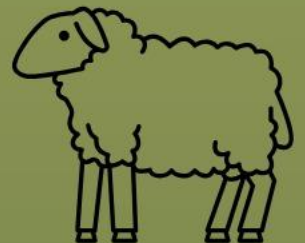
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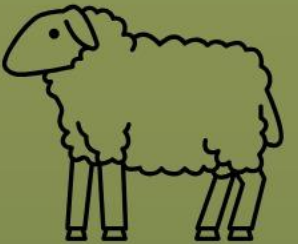
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Roman 12:6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophecy in accordance with your faith; 7 if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; 8 if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

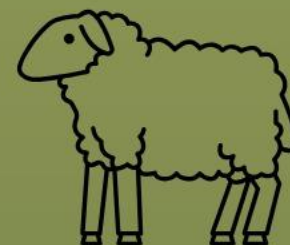




HOW WE GATHER: DEACONS

07

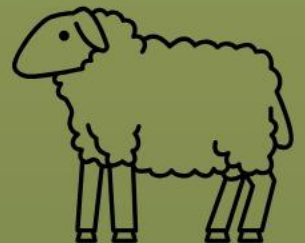
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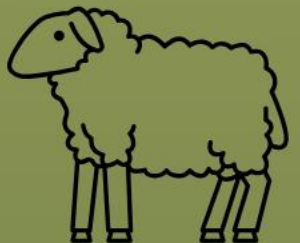
A. Preserve the **unity** of the church



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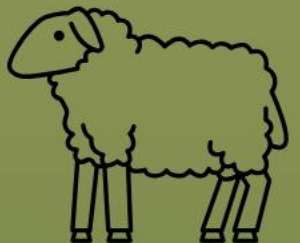
- A. Preserve the **unity** of the church
- B. Serve the **practical** needs of the church



HOW WE GATHER: DEACONS

2. What does a deacon do?

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- C. Deacons don't do **everything** themselves

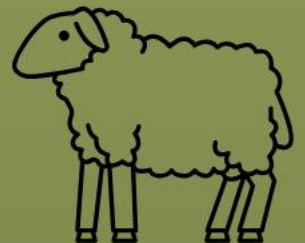


HOW WE GATHER: DEACONS

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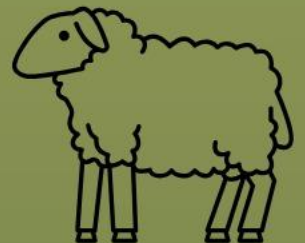
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HOW WE GATHER: DEACONS

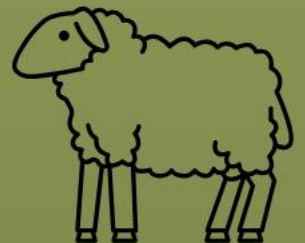
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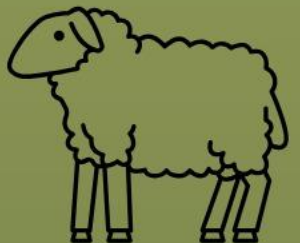
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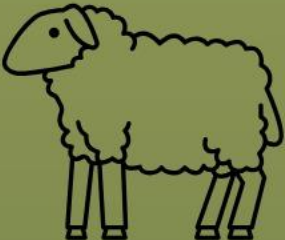
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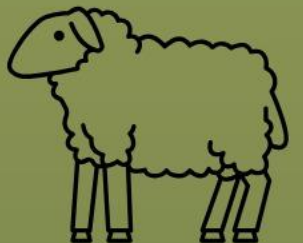
Equip others to serve





HOW WE GATHER: DEACONS

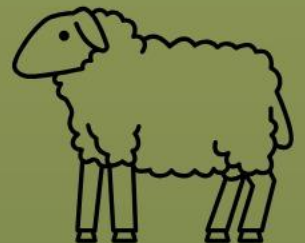
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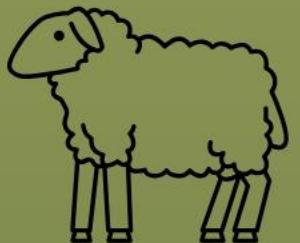


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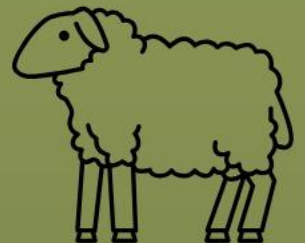
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HOW WE GATHER: DEACONS

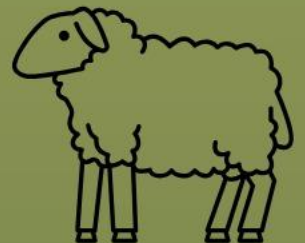
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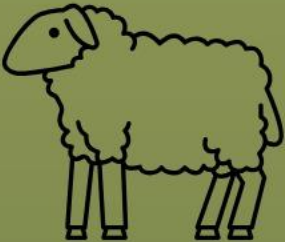
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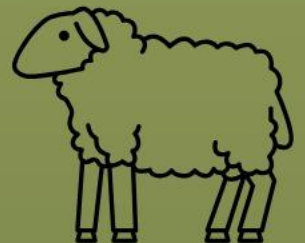
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D. Faithful at **home**





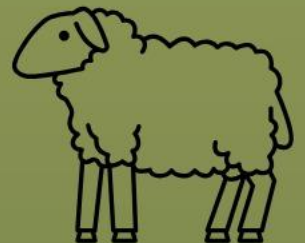
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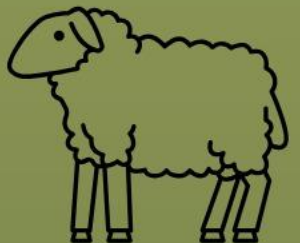
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Spiritual oversight

Shepherding

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Teaching and guarding doctrine



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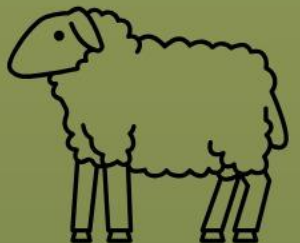
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DEACONS

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Meeting needs and facilitating ministry
Mobilizing the congregation to serve



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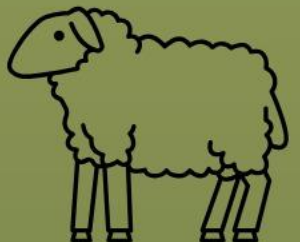
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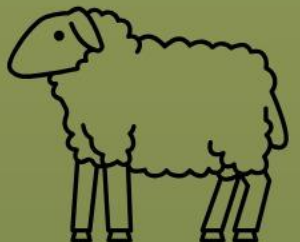
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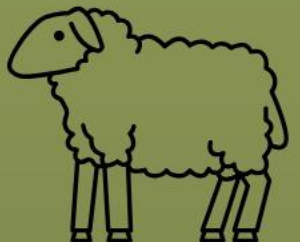
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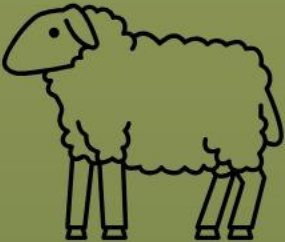
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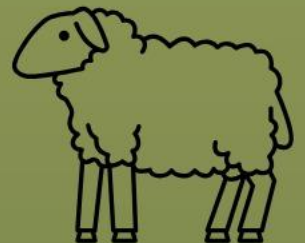
Worship and music
Facilities
Children's ministry

Prayer
Hospitality
Finances





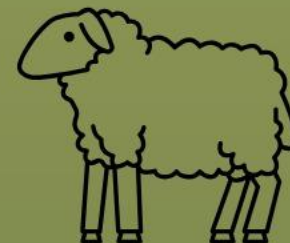
5. Men and Women



HOW WE GATHER: DEACONS

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A. 1 Timothy 3:11

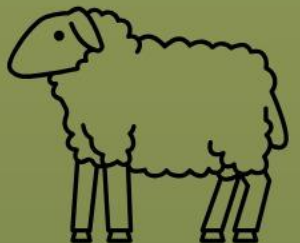


HOW WE GATHER: DEACONS

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A. No Mention of Wives/Women for Elders



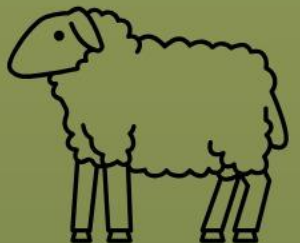
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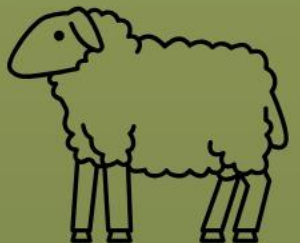
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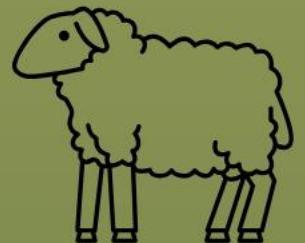
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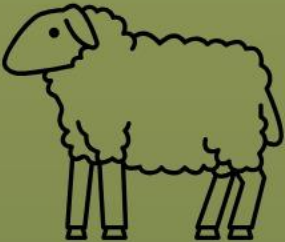
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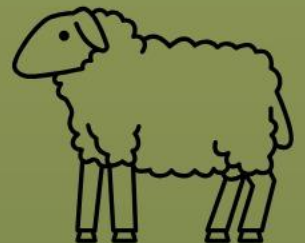
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Faithful Christians reach different conclusions. The office remains distinct from the governing and teaching responsibilities of elders.





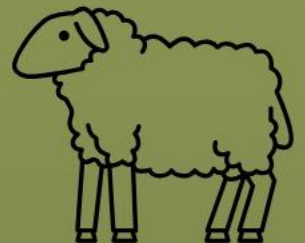
6. How are Deacons Recognized? Acts 6:3-6



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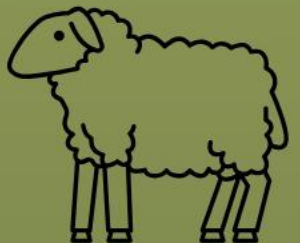
A. Not Self-appointed



HOW WE GATHER: DEACONS

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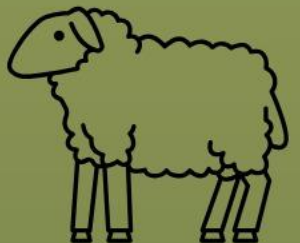
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HOW WE GATHER: DEACONS

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FAITH THAT WORKS

NOTICE IT. CALL IT OUT. BANK IT. SHARE IT.

THINGS TO LOOK FOR

- Are they displaying Christ-like integrity?
- Are they finding ways to love others like Christ did?
- Are they pursuing peace and forgiveness instead of winning?
- Are their words building up or tearing down?

1 NOTICE IT

Look for Christ-likeness in someone.

2 CALL IT OUT

Give them a card. Tell them what you noticed and why it matters.

3 BANK IT

They read it. Then drop it in the jar.

4 SHARE IT

Every month, leaders read cards aloud and celebrate what God is doing.

WE BUILD EACH OTHER UP. WE LIVE THE GOSPEL. TOGETHER.

WHO DOES IT?

- ADULT/HS LEADERS:** Encourage JH students.
- ADULT LEADERS:** Encourage HS students.

WHEN?

Every month, jar is emptied and cards are read.

EXAMPLE CARD

I SAW YOU...
Invited someone new to sit with your group at dinner.

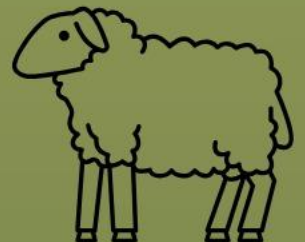
YOU LIVED OUT...

☐	☒	☐	☐

BECAUSE OF YOU...
You made them feel welcome and they had a great day!

FROM: *Ethan (Leader)*

LET'S KEEP LOOKING FOR JESUS IN EACH OTHER.



6. How are Deacons Recognized? Acts 6:3-6

- A. Not **Self-appointed**
- B. The church **recognizes** what **God** is already doing
- C. We should be looking for **servants**
- D. The Church Commends and **commissions**

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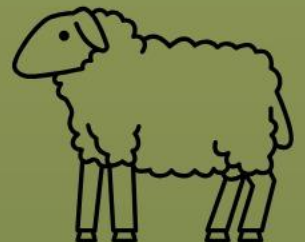
YOU LIVED OUT...

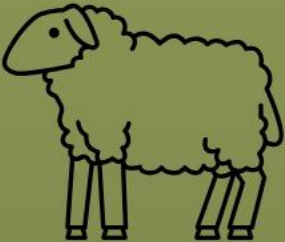
			
☐	☒	☐	☐

BECAUSE OF YOU...
You made them feel welcome and they had a great day!

FROM: *Ethan (Leader)*

 **LET'S KEEP LOOKING FOR JESUS IN EACH OTHER.**

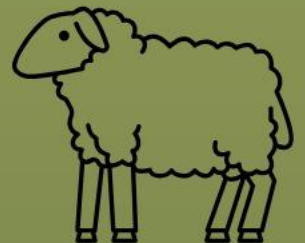




HOW WE GATHER: DEACONS

24

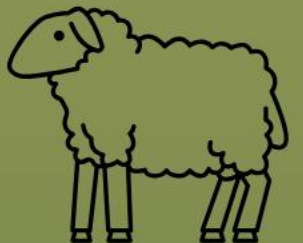
7. What happens when deacons serve faithfully? Acts 6:7



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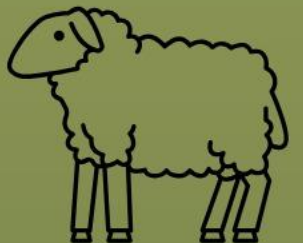


HOW WE GATHER: DEACONS

7. What happens when deacons serve faithfully? Acts 6:7

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B. Faithful action



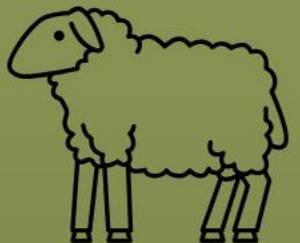
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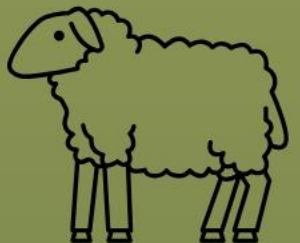
HOW WE GATHER: DEACONS

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Care



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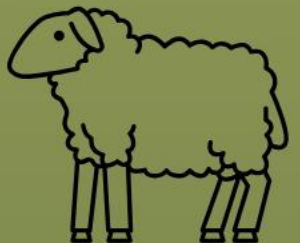
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Freedom



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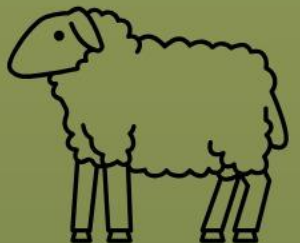
B. Faithful action

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Care

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Participation



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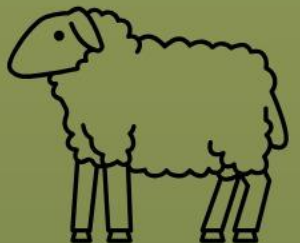
Unity

Care

Freedom

Participation

Order



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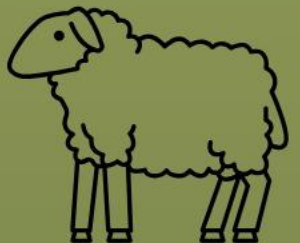
Care

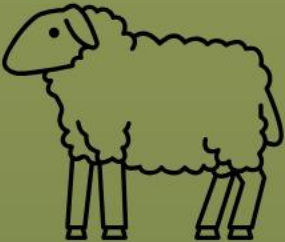
Freedom

Participation

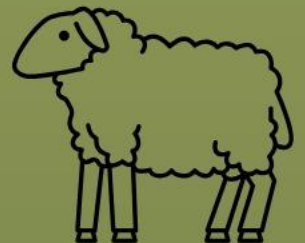
Order

Mission





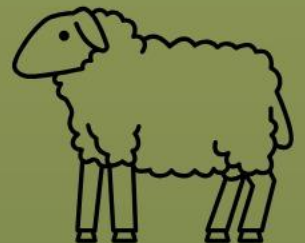
8. The ultimate model isn't Acts 6



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Matthew 20:25-28

25 Jesus called them over and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those in high positions act as tyrants over them. 26 It must not be like that among you. On the contrary, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, 27 and whoever wants to be first among you must be your slave; 28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”



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