

**“You shall not add to the word which I am  
commanding you,  
nor take away from it...”  
-- Deuteronomy 4:2**



Andrew and Mark Sowder  
great guys, and taking a stand for the gospel of glory  
at Bible study in their home  
near Roanoke, VA

**“If any man is willing to do [the  
Father’s] will, he shall know of the  
teaching, whether it is of God, or  
whether I speak from Myself.”**

*John 7:17*

“Follow through in 2022!!”

**June 26, 2022**

**Christ's Church**

Meeting at

30 Red Fox Lane — Bozeman

2902 17th St. S. — Great Falls

Holiday Inn Express — Butte

**BOZEMAN - 8:45 - Josiah Sutton**

9:00 am - classes

10:00 am - Assembly

St'dship - Jim Mitchell

L.S. - Herb Burnell

Preaching - Luke Wilson

**L.D. EVENING 7:00 PM -**

L.S. - Scott Schweitzer

**BUTTE - 7:30 pm - Classes**

8:15 pm - Assembly

L.S. - Jason Shanahan

Preaching - Tom McDunn

**Bozeman**

**June Prayer/Potluck - June 25-26. -**

Fellowship dinner following morning assembly

**VBS - July 11-14**

**GREAT FALLS - 2:45 - Stan Zech**

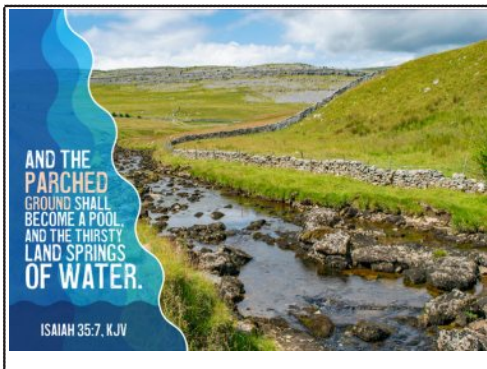
3:00 pm - classes

4:00 pm - Assembly

St'dship - TBA

L.S. - Bobo Womagno

Preaching - Caleb Wilson



**BOZEMAN -**

**Wed. night, 7:00 pm: Phil Sutton** on "The Gold Standard" Matt. 7:12

**GREAT FALLS -**

**Wed. night, 7:00 pm: Caleb Wilson**

**Great Falls**

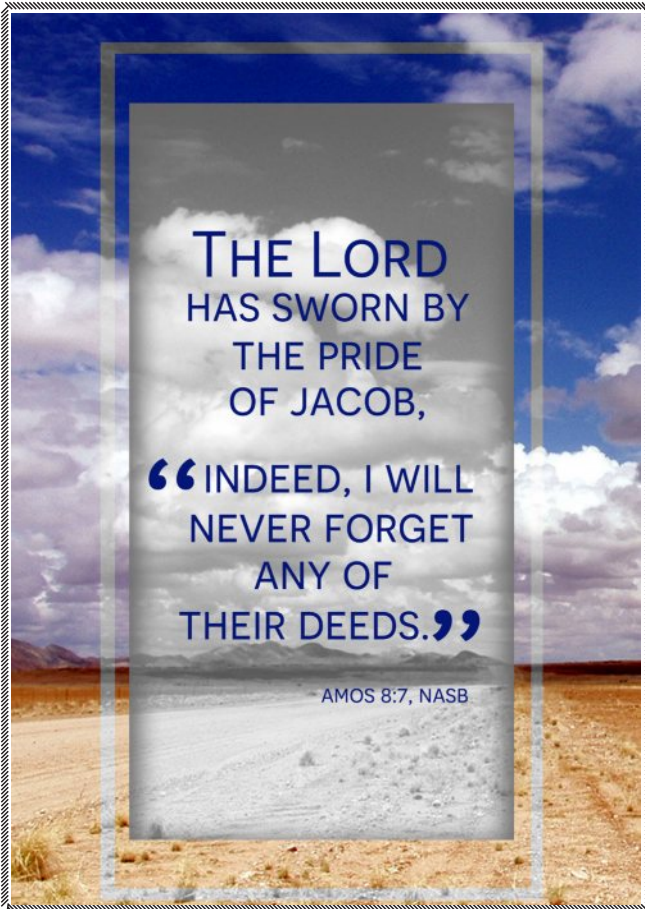
VBS - June 27-30

**July 3 - Fellowship dinner following assembly**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Men's Peaks - July 21-23-Theme: "Full Armor"**

**Family Camp - Sept. 2-5-Theme: "The Way"**



**Question of the week:**

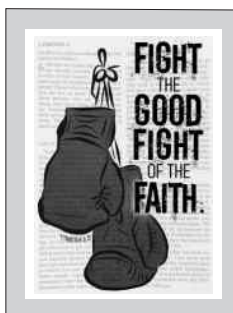
When Paul was preaching in the synagogue of Antioch of Pisidia, he quoted loosely from Isaiah regarding the “holy and sure blessings of David.” What is that a reference to?

Last week’s question: On what mountain overlooking the Mediterranean Sea did Elijah challenge the prophets of Baal about calling fire down from heaven? *Answer: Mt. Carmel (1 Kings 18:20).*

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:**

Bible School – 95  
Morning Assembly – 122  
Evening Assembly – 78

Wednesday Night (6/22) – 78  
Butte Lord’s Day – 11  
GF Lord’s Day – 46,62 Wed. - 62



The Epistles to the Evangelists

## Deacons

The word *deacon* means “servant.” It is a *diakonos* type of servant rather than a *doulos* type of servant. The first is like one who waits on tables at a restaurant, the second is a slave or a *bond-servant*, a slave by choice. *Diakonos* is a broad word, used in all kinds of service-types of contexts in New Testament writings; it primarily describes the relationship of the “server” to the work he is doing as contrasted to *doulos*, which more generally describes the relationship of the one doing the work to his master. But there is what might be called a “special servant” who works in the congregational setting, which the translators generally render “deacon,” the Anglicization of *diakonos*. For example, when the apostle Paul greeted the congregation in Philippi, he spoke of “all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, including *overseers* and *deacons*”

(Philippians 1:1). *Deacons*, along with the elders, are signaled as those holding a special office in the midst of the brethren.

- **Some qualities** – “Deacons,” enumerates Paul, “must likewise [as in the case of bishops] be men of dignity, not double-tongued, or addicted to much wine or fond of sordid gain” (1 Timothy 3:8). “Not double-tongued” stands out as an additional thought. Deacons must not be the kind of men who bend to please the audience, saying one thing to one group of people, and saying the opposite to another.
- **Spiritual examples** – Paul points out that deacons must be those “holding to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience” (1 Timothy 3:9). Again, “the mystery of the faith” is an interesting expression. “Mystery” has to do with something that has been hidden in the past but now has been revealed. Mankind has the ability to observe, and to reason about what he observes. But the combination of observing and reasoning will not produce any information about the spiritual realm, the realm of “faith.” “Faith,” in this case, refers to the saints’ believing what the scripture says about the unseen realm. Hence, “the mystery of the faith” refers especially to the revealed new covenant teachings, the apostles’ doctrine. Those who would serve as deacons must be those who stand firm in the faith, and who also maintain clear consciences in the sight of God Almighty.
- **Tested** – The basic principle running through new covenant teaching on leadership is that a Christian must be doing a lot of the work voluntarily before being formally granted the office. In the case of deacons, “these also must first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, if they are beyond reproach” (1 Timothy 3:10). It’s okay for the prospective deacons to be given training projects and assignments; if they pass, they can be deacons, and if not, they can’t.
- **Women** – “Women must likewise be dignified,” notes the apostle, “not malicious gossips, but temperate, faithful in all things” (1 Timothy 3:11). Whether the apostle is referring to women who serve or deacon’s wives is not entirely clear; whatever the case, they must comport themselves in a professional manner—disciplined and faithful. Deacon’s wives would be privy to a lot of private information, and would have to be the kind of ladies who could keep their mouths shut about stuff that is nobody else’s business.
- **Family** – Deacons have the same family requirements as elders, except that their children do not have to be old enough to be described as “children who believe.” “Let deacons be husbands of only one wife, and good managers of their children and their own households” (1 Timothy 1:12).

What do deacons do? In a large congregation such as in the cases of many new testament congregations (Jerusalem: 3000 immersed on Pentecost, then 5000 men, then “multitudes”), there would be many major projects the elders and evangelists would not be able to supervise properly. Deacons would be those valuable, trustworthy men who could get any project done or situation handled that the other leadership couldn’t get to. “For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a high standing and great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus” (1 Timothy 3:13). These are spiritual rewards in Christ worth a dedicated saint’s time and life!

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