

PURSUING — OUR — MISSION

Liberating the Church

Acts 6:1-7



pas·tor

/'pastər/

noun

1. shepherd; a helper, or feeder of the sheep (from Latin *pascere* – a place where the sheep are fed or grazed)
2. a man who meets the Scriptural qualifications (*1 Tim. 3:1-7*), is called by God, and affirmed and ordained by the church to lead a local assembly



3 Terms Used:

- **Pastor** – *shepherd*
- **Elder** – *experience in the faith; authority*
- **Bishop** – *overseers or administrators*

dea·con

/'dēkən/

noun

1. Servant *or* to serve
2. a man who meets the Scriptural qualifications (*1 Tim. 3:8-13*), and is chosen by the congregation to serve and care for the needs of the church body.

1. What problems in your life does God want to redefine as opportunities?
2. How are you viewing God's church?
 - *A fortress to protect?*
 - *An organization to maintain?*
 - *A dynamic army of Gospel-speaking, Gospel-living people to be unleashed?*
3. Would you pray that God would unleash His church so that "the number of disciples multiplies greatly" here on Guam?



NEXTSTEPS



What we may perceive as problems are nothing more than God-given opportunities...

- 1) Opportunities to examine our mission**
- 2) Opportunities to examine ourselves**
- 3) Opportunities to exercise our faith**
- 4) Opportunities to express our love**

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Two specific purposes of deacons:

1. To liberate the congregation to focus on ministry.

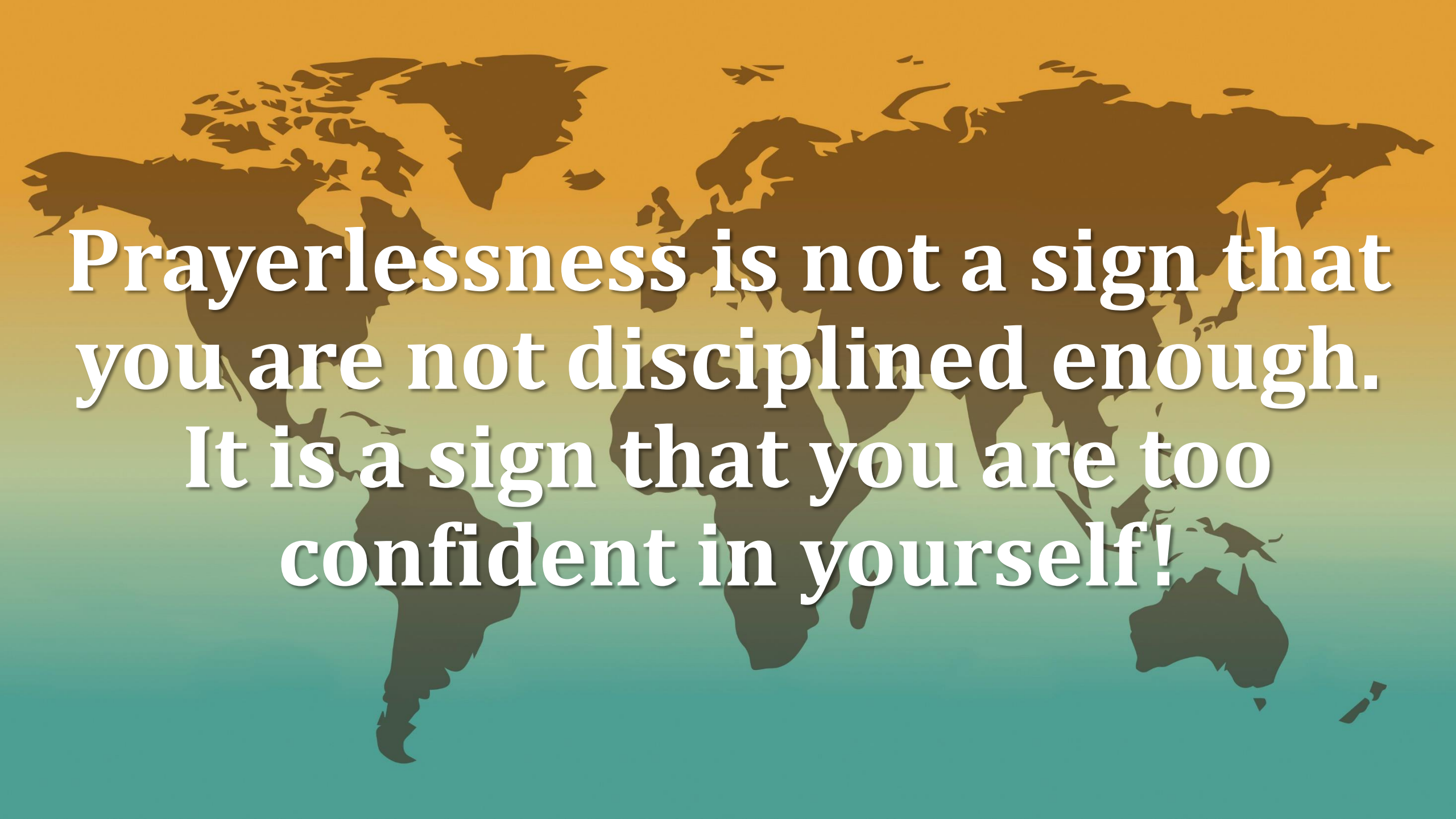
2. To liberate the pastors to focus on ministry.





If it was not a good idea for the pastors to take on these responsibilities, what were they going to do?

- *Focus on prayer*

A dark silhouette of a world map is centered on a background that transitions from a warm orange at the top to a teal at the bottom. The map shows the outlines of continents and major islands.

**Prayerlessness is not a sign that
you are not disciplined enough.
It is a sign that you are too
confident in yourself!**



If it was not a good idea for the pastors to take on these responsibilities, what were they going to do?

- *Focus on prayer*
- *Focus on Word-ministry*

A dark silhouette of a world map is centered on a background that transitions from a warm orange at the top to a teal at the bottom. The map shows the outlines of all major continents.

**Spiritual growth will not
take place unless we are
fed spiritual food.**





Deacon's Qualifications (v. 3)

- Men – *“men”*
- Trusted character – *“of honest report”*
- Spiritually growing – *“full of the Holy Ghost”*
- Practical wisdom – *“and wisdom”*
- Responsible – *“whom we may appoint over this business”*



Deacon's Responsibilities

1. Burden-Bearers

2. Stress-Relievers

3. Helpers

4. Liberators



1. Remember that selection of deacons is important, spiritual business.
2. Consider whether God is prompting you to “join the team” and become a committed member at Harvest.
3. Would you pray that God would unleash His church so that “*the number of disciples multiplies greatly*” here on Guam?



NEXTSTEPS