SERMON

Anatomy of a Healthy Church

1 Timothy 3:8-16

1) The Qualifications of Deacons (v.8-13)

a) Character

b) Household

c) Reward

2) The Conduct and Confession of the Church (v.14-16)

a) Conduct

b) Confession

1 Timothy 3:8-16

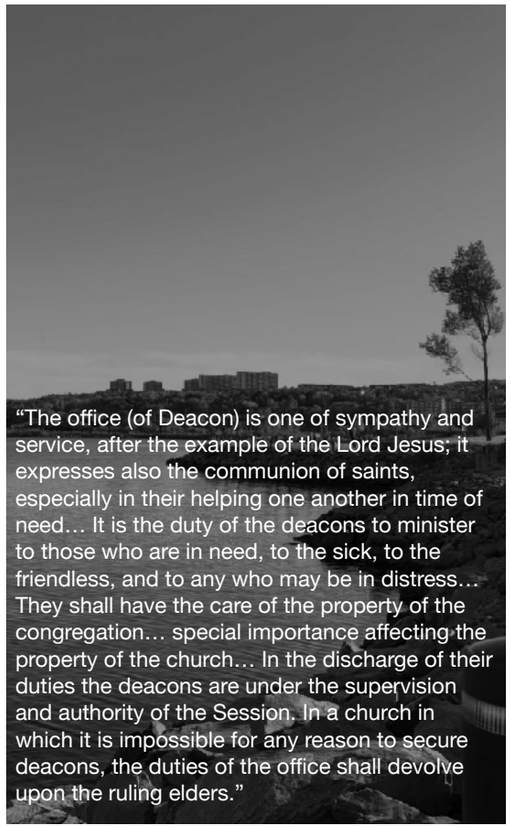
8 Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-
tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for
dishonest gain. 9 They must hold the mystery of the faith
with a clear conscience. 10 And let them also be tested
first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove
themselves blameless. 11 Their wives likewise must be
dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all
things. 12 Let deacons each be the husband of one wife,
managing their children and their own households well.
13 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.

14 I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these
things to you so that, 15 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. 16 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.

Acts 6:1-7

1 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. 2 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. 3
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. 4 But we will devote ourselves to prayer
and to the ministry of the word.” 5 And what they said
pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a
man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and
Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and
Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. 6 These they set before the
apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. 7
And the word of God continued to increase, and the number
of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great
many of the priests became obedient to the faith.



“The office (of Deacon) is one of sympathy and service, after the example of the Lord Jesus; it expresses also the communion of saints, especially in their helping one another in time of need… It is the duty of the deacons to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress… They shall have the care of the property of the congregation… special importance affecting the property of the church… In the discharge of their duties the deacons are under the supervision and authority of the Session. In a church in which it is impossible for any reason to secure deacons, the duties of the office shall devolve upon the ruling elders.”

BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 15, 2026
Rev. Jim Poopalapillai
www.bedfordpca.org
49 Nelsons Landing Blvd., Bedford, NS

Welcome to Bedford Presbyterian Church

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Discipleship Groups
*Visit **BedfordPCA.org/discipleship-groups**, to sign-up.*

English Conversation Group
On **Wednesdays** at 12:45 p.m. Come practice speaking and listening while building friendships and community.

BPC Kids
BPC Kids’ includes: Pre-primary–Grade 1 class, Grade 2–Grade 4 class, and nursery. *Dismissed after Songs of Renewal.*

Christ and Culture Conference
A one-day conference run by Christ Church Halifax, on **November 21.** Register at ChristChurchHalifax.ca/conference.

Light Up Bedford
- Volunteer at parade barricades on **November 22, 4:45–7:00 PM**, Join us for prayer for our city at 4:00 PM;
- Volunteers are also needed for tree setup at DeWolf Park on **November 20 at 10:00 AM**.
- To volunteer for either, **email Pastor Jim by November 16**.

Evening Service
Join us for our monthly Evening Service, **November 29**, at 5:00 p.m.

Community Meal
On **December 6**, at 5:30pm, we will have a potluck meal with and for our community. Invite your friends and neighbours.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Family of the week: Tambala family: Smartex and Barbara Blays, Hannah, Jefferies and Felix

HOW TO GIVE

E-transfer to bedfordpca@gmail.com

LIVE TRANSLATION

SCAN HERE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
INVOCATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: the LORD sits enthroned forever;
he has established his throne for
justice, and he judges the world with
righteousness; he judges the
peoples with uprightness.

People: The LORD is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek you.

Leader: For the needy shall not always be
forgotten, and the hope of the poor
shall not perish forever.

People: Arise, O LORD! Let not man prevail; let the nations be judged before you! Put them in fear, O LORD! Let the nations know that they are but men!

—Psalm 9:7-10,18-20

HYMN OF PRAISE

Great is Thy Faithfulness

GOSPEL READING

Mark 10:35-45

35 And James and John, the sons of Zebedee,
came up to him and said to him, “Teacher, we
want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.”
36 And he said to them, “What do you want me
to do for you?” 37 And they said to him, “Grant
us to sit, one at your right hand and one at
your left, in your glory.” 38 Jesus said to them,
“You do not know what you are asking. Are
you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be
baptized with the baptism with which I am
baptized?” 39 And they said to him, “We are
able.” And Jesus said to them, “The cup that I
drink you will drink, and with the baptism with
which I am baptized, you will be baptized,
40 but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not
mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been
prepared.” 41 And when the ten heard it, they began to
be indignant at James and John. 42 And Jesus called
them to him and said to them, “You know that those who
are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them,
and their great ones exercise authority over them. 43 But
it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be
great among you must be your servant, 44 and whoever
would be first among you must be slave of all. 45 For
even the Son of Man came not to be served but to
serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

CALL TO REPENTANCE

Based on Gospel reading

SONG OF REFLECTION

Psalm 90

CONFESSION OF SIN

People: Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offences against you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love.
Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease you. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: **24** He himself bore our sins in his body on the
tree, that we might die to sin and live to
righteousness. By his wounds you have been
healed. —1 Peter 2:24

SONGS OF RENEWAL

Give me Jesus
Once Again

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 24

The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof,
the world and those who dwell therein,
2 for he has founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.

3 Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?
And who shall stand in his holy place?
4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not lift up his soul to what is false
and does not swear deceitfully.
5 He will receive blessing from the Lord
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.
6 Such is the generation of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob *Selah*

7 Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
8 Who is this King of glory?
The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord, mighty in battle!
9 Lift up your heads, O gates!
And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
10 Who is this King of glory?
The Lord of hosts,
he is the King of glory! *Selah*

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH AND CITY

Prayer for Single People and for the Tambala family

THE LORD’S PRAYER

People: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

SERMON

Anatomy of a Healthy Church
Rev. Jim Poopalapillai

CLOSING HYMN

Nothing but the Blood of Jesus

BENEDICTION

Leader: **13** May the God of hope fill you with all joy and
peace in believing, so that by the power of the
Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.
— Romans 15:13

DISMISSAL

Leader: Let us go forth to serve the world as those who
love our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

People: Thanks be to God!

