

**Study Guide to Alexander Strauch's**  
***The New Testament Deacon***  
Chapters 5-6

**Read Chapter 5: Overseers: Episkopoi**

**Q:** Strauch wrote that, “in the New Testament, deacons are always associated with overseers, yet they are subordinate to and distinct from them” (pg. 58). Explain this. Why are overseers and deacons often associated with each other? Also, in what ways are deacons subordinate to and distinct from overseers?

**A:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Read Chapter 6: Deacons: Diakonoi**

**Q:** The word study in this chapter is important for understanding the heart of diaconal work. How does the general use of the “deacon” word group help you to understand the office and responsibilities of the NT deacon? In other words, given the general meaning of the word, why do you think God chose to name this official church group “servants”?

**A:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Q:** Strauch wrote that “The two offices of overseer and servants are meant to complement each other” (pg. 75). Explain this. How do these distinct offices work together for the benefit of the church? Or to put it another way, what would be missing if one office or the other did not exist?

**A:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Q:** At the end of this chapter Strauch writes about the many of the conflicts and tensions that overseers and deacons can have with one another. What can be done to reduce these? How can these offices experience unity?

**A:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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