

Servant or Minister in the New Testament (*diakonos, diakoneow, diakonian*)

Jesus used a simple term to describe service – *diakonos*. It is used throughout the New Testament. At its most basic level, it means “table servant.” In homes with money this was a paid servant; but in ordinary homes, it was a role performed by women & children (Luke 8:3; 10:40). Jesus described himself as a table servant (Luke 22:24-27; John 13) & called on others to see the greatest among his followers as such a servant (Mark 10:43). The word is used to refer to those who serve the church (Acts 6:1-7; Romans 16:1-3) & those who were ministers (Colossians 1:7, 23, 25; 4:7, 17). This was Jesus’ way of emphasizing that rather than a position of authority, ministry is a life of humble service (Also see Matthew 23:1-12).

Reference	NIV	RSV	NCV	NASB	TNIV	NLT	Person or Subject
Mt 20:26	*	*	*	*	*	*	greatest a servant
Mt 22:13	attendant	attendant	*	*	*	aides	King's servant
Mt 23:11	*	*	*	*	*	*	greatest a servant
Mt 27:55	care for His needs	ministering to Him	help Him	ministering to Him	care for His needs	care for Him	women helping Jesus' ministry
Mr 9:35	*	*	*	*	*	*	first a servant
Mr 10:43	*	*	*	*	*	*	greatest a servant
Luke 8:3	helping to support	provided for them	help	contributing to support	helping support	contributing	women in Jesus' ministry
Luke 10:40	(dinner) preparations	servicing (dinner)	work to be done	(dinner) preparations	(dinner) preparations	preparing dinner	Martha serving Jesus
Joh 2:5,9	*	*	*	*	*	*	household servant
Joh 12:26	*	*	*	*	*	*	one who serves Christ
Acts 6:1	distribution	distribution	food given	serving food	distribution	distribution	those serving widows
Acts 6:2	ministry	preaching	teaching	word	ministry	teaching	apostles
Acts 6:4	ministry	ministry	teach	ministry	ministry	teaching	apostles
Rom 13:4	*	*	*	minister	*	*	King is God's servant
Rom 15:8	*	*	*	*	*	*	Christ became servant
Rom 16:1	*	deaconess	helper	*	deacon	deacon	Phoebe
1 Cor 3:5	*	*	*	*	*	*	Paul & Apollos
2 Cor 3:6	ministers	ministers	*	*	ministers	ministers	Paul & Apostles
2 Cor 6:4	*	*	*	*	*	*	Apostles
2 Cor 11:15	*	*	*	*	*	*	Satan's Angels
2 Cor 11:23	*	*	*	*	*	*	Servants of Christ
Gal 2:17	promoter	agent	*	minister	promotes	led	Christ
Eph 3:7	*	minister	*	minister	*	*	Paul
Eph 6:21	*	minister	*	minister	*	helper	Tychicus
Phi 1:1	deacons	deacons	deacons	deacons	deacons	deacons	With overseers
Col 1:7	minister	minister	*	*	minister	helping	Epaphras
Col 1:23	*	minister	(helper)	minister	*	*	Paul
Col 1:25	*	minister	*	minister	*	*	Paul
Col 4:7	minister	minister	minister	*	minister	helper	Tychicus
1 Tim 3:8	deacon	deacon	deacon	deacons	deacons	deacons	With overseers
1 Tim 3:12	deacons	deacons	deacons	deacons	deacons	deacons	With overseers
1 Tim 4:6	minister	minister	*	*	minister	*	Timothy

\* refers to every occurrence when the word *diakonos* is translated with the word "servant"