

ACTS 6:1-7

In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. ² So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³ Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them ⁴ and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

⁵ This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. ⁶ They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷ So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

When a problem is encountered: what is your typical response?

- Fix: You get energized and want to come up with a solution.
- Ignore: You act like it is not there.
- Run: You get overwhelmed and want to run away.
- Melt Down: You get stressed out and are unable to properly function.

What was the problem that arose in Acts chapter 6? What did the Apostles propose as a solution?

Why did the Apostles advocate for empowering a new team to handle the issue as opposed to just solving it themselves? Did the solution work?

What were the qualifications of the new servants? Why is it important for there to be appropriate levels of qualification that match the assigned roles in the church?

We are called to serve the Lord through His church. How does this passage highlight the importance of serving to meet the needs of people? Where are you serving people?

DAILY READINGS

1. EXODUS 18:14-27
2. LUKE 10:1-24
3. LUKE 21:5-24
4. ROMANS 8:18-30
5. 1 TIMOTHY 3:1-13
6. HEBREWS 11:1-31
7. ACTS 6:1-7