

GROWING IN FAITH



Acts 6

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. 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 and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." 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. They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. 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.

Acts 6:2-7

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GOING DEEPER

What is the issue at hand?

How do the disciples handle the issue?

What are the criteria for selecting the seven?

Compare these criteria to those you would use to hire someone for a job. What are the differences and why?

Using the right criteria.

If these criteria made such a difference then, would they make a difference today?

Have you ever thought about preparing yourself, spiritually, before you go to work or to volunteer?

What difference does or could that make in your life?

Stephen.

"Full of God's grace and power," Stephen exceeded his explicit commission.

How can we dream bigger in our current roles/jobs, to make a bigger difference in the world around us?