

Acts 6:1-7

In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews[a] 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.

Sermon Questions

1. How would you describe the spiritual season you are in?
2. Why are tough situations often good for our relationship with God?
3. What are some examples of the desert experience in Scripture and why is Acts in this category?
4. Looking at Acts 6:1-7, who are the people being overlooked and why does God have a heart for them?
5. What are some of the barriers you personally put up that stop you from reaching out to different people?
6. Give an example of how you or the church might love more like Jesus?