# Acts 6:1-7 | Healthy Growth, Messy Ministry

### Main Idea

As God's church grows, challenges will come. Healthy churches aren't free from problems. They're filled with people who trust Jesus enough to work through them together. God has uniquely equipped every believer to participate in His mission.

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## Icebreaker

Think about a time you were part of something that grew quickly (a team, organization, family, workplace or ministry). What new opportunities and new challenges came with that growth?

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## Read Together

**Acts 6:1-7**

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## Sermon Summary

The early church was experiencing incredible growth as more and more people placed their faith in Jesus. But that growth also exposed challenges within the community. Cultural tensions surfaced, needs were overlooked and the apostles realized they couldn't carry every responsibility alone.

Instead of allowing conflict to divide the church, they responded with wisdom. They remained focused on their calling, empowered others to lead and entrusted ministry to qualified people who reflected both godly character and practical wisdom.

This passage reminds us that growth is healthy, ministry is often messy and every follower of Jesus has an important role to play in God's mission.

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# Discuss

## 1. Growth is healthy.

Throughout Acts, Luke repeatedly points out that the church continued to grow.

**Why do you think Luke emphasizes the growth of the church so often?**

**How does healthy church growth differ from simply getting bigger?**

**Who helped you take your next step toward Jesus, and what does that remind you about God's heart for people who don't yet know Him?**

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## 2. Ministry is messy.

The conflict in Acts 6 wasn't simply about food. It exposed deeper cultural tensions within the church.

**Why do you think differences between people often become opportunities for conflict?**

**Jesus said people would recognize His followers by their love for one another. Why is that kind of unity such a powerful witness today?**

**When conflict arises, what usually tempts you most: avoiding it, controlling it or engaging it with humility?**

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## 3. You are necessary.

The apostles understood they couldn't do everything themselves, so they empowered others to serve.

**What stands out to you about the qualifications they looked for in new leaders?**

**How has God uniquely wired or prepared you to serve others?**

**What's one area where you sense God may be inviting you to step into greater responsibility or ministry?**

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# Live It Out

Choose one way to respond this week.

- Pray each day for one person who doesn't yet know Jesus.
- Look for an opportunity to serve someone in your church, neighborhood or workplace.
- If you're not currently serving at church, explore where God may be inviting you to use your gifts.
- If you're carrying more than God has actually asked you to carry, prayerfully identify one responsibility you need to release or share with someone else.

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## Prayer

Father, thank You for building Your Church and inviting us to be part of what You're doing. Help us celebrate when lives are changed, respond with grace when challenges arise and faithfully use the gifts You've given us to serve others. Form us into a community marked by humility, unity and love so that more people would come to know Jesus. Show each of us the part You've prepared for us to play in Your mission. In Jesus' name, amen.