

Acts 6

Chapter Guided Discovery

Acts 6 shows the church protecting unity, appointing faithful servants, and seeing Stephen stand with Spirit-given wisdom.

Scripture Spotlight

Acts 6:4

"but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word."



CHAPTER SUMMARY

As the Jerusalem church grew, a complaint arose because Hellenist widows were being overlooked in daily care. The apostles led the believers to appoint seven qualified servants so prayer and Scripture teaching could continue. The gospel kept advancing, but Stephen's powerful witness brought dishonest accusations and a council trial.



CORE TRUTH

God's work needs both faithful service and faithful preaching. The church protected unity by caring for neglected people, choosing Spirit-filled servants, and keeping prayer and God's Word at the center of ministry.



DID YOU KNOW?

The complaint in Acts 6 involved Hebrews and Hellenists. Hellenists were Greek-speaking Jews from outside Judea, so language and cultural differences may have made the neglect of their widows especially painful and dangerous for church unity.



QUICK TAKEAWAY

- Growth can reveal hidden problems.
- Wise leadership protects unity.
- Service matters in God's work.
- The Spirit gives wisdom under pressure.

1 FILL IN THE BLANKS

WORD BANK

Hellenist widows seven prayer Stephen council

1. A complaint arose because some _____ were being overlooked in daily care.
2. The problem involved Greek-speaking _____ believers.
3. The believers chose _____ qualified men to help with the need.
4. The apostles kept _____ and Scripture teaching as their main focus.
5. _____ was known for faith, wisdom, and Spirit-filled boldness.
6. Dishonest accusations brought Stephen before the _____.

2 MATCH IT

Hebrews
Hellenists
The Twelve
The Seven
Stephen
Dishonest
Witnesses

- A. Native Jewish believers connected to Judea and Aramaic culture.
- B. Greek-speaking Jewish believers from the wider Jewish world.
- C. Apostolic leaders who guided the church's response.
- D. Trusted servants chosen to help care for the need.
- E. A Spirit-filled witness who spoke with wisdom.
- F. People used to accuse Stephen dishonestly.

3 MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. What problem first appears in Acts 6?
A. A famine in Jerusalem
B. Neglected widows in daily care
C. A Roman tax dispute
D. A disagreement about travel
2. Why did the apostles not personally take over the daily distribution?
A. They wanted to avoid helping people
B. They were leaving Jerusalem immediately
C. They needed to keep prayer and Scripture teaching central
D. They did not trust the church
3. What kind of men were to be chosen?
A. Wealthy men with Roman influence
B. Men known for good reputation, wisdom, and Spirit-filled life
C. Men from outside the church
D. Men trained as temple guards
4. What happened when opponents could not overcome Stephen's wisdom?
A. They believed immediately as a group
B. They stopped all public debate
C. They used dishonest accusations against him
D. They asked him to lead the council

4 PUT IN ORDER

- _____ Stephen was seized and brought before the council.
- _____ The apostles explained that their main calling must stay focused on prayer and Scripture teaching.
- _____ A complaint arose because some widows were being overlooked.
- _____ The believers chose seven qualified men for the service need.
- _____ The gospel continued spreading, and many more became disciples.
- _____ Opponents stirred up dishonest charges against Stephen.

5 TRUE OR FALSE

- _____ 1. The chapter begins with a problem created as the number of disciples increased.
- _____ 2. The apostles treated practical care as unimportant.
- _____ 3. The seven were chosen to help address a real need in the church.
- _____ 4. Stephen is described as weak and afraid before the people.
- _____ 5. Stephen's opponents were unable to defeat his wisdom in debate.
- _____ 6. The council saw Stephen marked by fear and guilt.

6 SHORT ANSWER

1. What need caused the church to appoint the seven?
2. Why was it wise for the apostles to protect time for prayer and Scripture teaching?
3. What qualities made Stephen stand out in Acts 6?
4. What do the accusations against Stephen show about opposition to the gospel?



NOTES & THOUGHTS



PERSONAL REFLECTION

In this season I will...



PRAYER PROMPT

Ask God to give your church humble servants, wise leaders, and unity when needs arise. Pray for courage to speak truth with grace, and for a heart that values both practical care and faithful Scripture teaching.



REMEMBER

Healthy ministry does not ignore problems; it brings needs into the light, serves faithfully, and keeps Christ's mission central.