



## #14 Growing Leadership for an Unstoppable Church!

**Acts 6:1-7 (NIV)**

**A reminder of the context of where we are at this point in Acts...**

**Acts 5:42** – “they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.”

**Acts 6:1a** - “In those days when the number of disciples was increasing...”

### 1. An **ETHNIC CONTROVERSY** Arises

**Acts 6:1b** “...the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.

**James 1:27** – “Pure religion before God is this: to look after **orphans** and **widows**...”

### 2. The Apostles **CHALLENGE** the Congregation

**Acts 6:2** “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. <sup>3</sup> 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 <sup>4</sup> and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.”

### 3. The Solution is Found in **FAITHFUL LEADERS**

**Acts 6:5** “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. <sup>6</sup> They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.”

### 4. The Word **SPREADS** and the Unstoppable Church **GROWS**

**Acts 6:7** “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.”

**CLOSED CIRCUIT FOR NEW LIFE**

**CLOSED CIRCUIT FOR MEN**