

ACTS

Staying On Mission in a Healthy Church

Acts 6:1-7

Context – A Burgeoning Church

2:41 – 3,000 added

2:47 – The Lord added to their number daily...

4:4 – Many believed; number of men grew to 5,000...

5:14 – More and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number...

6:1 – The disciples were increasing in number...

But _____ bring _____ ...

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution.

Acts 6:1

A necessary lesson for church leaders:

A healthy _____ is necessary for a healthy, growing _____.

A couple of necessary lessons for church members:

Your _____ can be legitimate and your response to that concern still be _____.

(Phil. 2:14)

Not every _____ or _____ in the church is a result of _____. Learn to show _____. And even if/when sin is the cause, practice _____ and _____.

Things Healthy Churches Do:

² And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables." ³ Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴ But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." ⁵ And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶ These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

Acts 6:2-6

A healthy church will be _____ to its _____.

What was the tool that God used to bring growth to the church?

What was the tool that God used to protect, empower, and embolden the church?

Would there even be a church without either?

Anything that threatens _____ derails, or at least detracts from, mission.

A healthy church will effectively _____ and _____.

Things that aren't _____ important are not _____.

Godly _____ are more important than good _____, but ...

A healthy church will structure itself for _____ and _____.

_____ have the biblical _____ of _____ and _____.

Prioritizing _____

Practicing _____

Gathering and _____ the flock

_____ have the biblical _____ of meeting _____.

_____ for members

_____ ministry

_____ unity

_____ have the authority and responsibility of _____.

By _____ it

By _____ it

By _____ it

At every other point of significant challenge to the early church, _____ was the ultimate outcome. Once again that proves to be the result:

⁷ And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

Acts 6:7