

# Too much of a good thing?

Acts 6:1-7

Sometimes we feel a tension between going \_\_\_\_\_ and going \_\_\_\_\_  
How might this happen in the church?

## Acts 6:1-7

1: The problem: growth+ \_\_\_\_\_ left some behind

Significant growth and \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ : Acts 1:15; 2:41, 42; 4:4; 5:14

Diversity: \_\_\_\_\_ Acts 2:9-11

Diversity: \_\_\_\_\_

Diversity: \_\_\_\_\_ structure

“ \_\_\_\_\_ ” = unintentional + harm

Language & Culture

Those leading the food (& money) distribution were \_\_\_\_\_ -  
speaking \_\_\_\_\_

Greek-speaking ' \_\_\_\_\_ ' widows were getting missed

Greek-speaking non- \_\_\_\_\_ spoke up

2-4: The proposed solution: add \_\_\_\_\_, godly, able leaders

Leaders invited \_\_\_\_\_ community into the process

Recognized importance of \_\_\_\_\_ priorities:

Meeting \_\_\_\_\_ needs of people in the church

Proclaiming the Word ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) & prayer

Acts 1:8; 2:42; 4:2, 20; 5:20, 40, 42

Needed additional \_\_\_\_\_ & workers

“From among you”: likely this is Greek speakers

Good reputation+in \_\_\_\_\_ with Holy Spirit+ \_\_\_\_\_

There is no ideal church structure except some measure of \_\_\_\_\_

5-6: The implementation: \_\_\_\_\_ with a work of God  
\_\_\_\_\_ decision

\_\_\_\_\_ chose the leaders by the apostles' criteria

All \_\_\_\_\_ names: likely not native Hebrew speakers

The 12 \_\_\_\_\_ and empowered these leaders

\_\_\_\_\_ with a work of God in the church

7: The result: \_\_\_\_\_ growth AND health

Ministry of the \_\_\_\_\_ grew

\_\_\_\_\_ : proclaiming (inside and outside)

\_\_\_\_\_ : belief & obedience

Failing to adjust to growth+diversity would have reduced

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Even more \_\_\_\_\_ : priests

## The Big Idea:

**The challenges of growth and differences**

**were turned for good**

**by the approved and \_\_\_\_\_ addition**

**of \_\_\_\_\_, Spirit-filled, able, and diverse “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”**

**in different roles**

**to keep the church's commitment to the Bible and \_\_\_\_\_**

## Application

**Be committed to the Bible and prayer**

Preaching & Life Groups & mentoring & personally & ...

Commitment to this test: “Where stands it \_\_\_\_\_?”

Is our vision driven by the Word or by us?

Commitment to \_\_\_\_\_ together and individually

We need to grow...

Other important matters threaten to \_\_\_\_\_ us away

**Be the church: focus on both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_**

“Love” both IN and OUT, rather than \_\_\_\_\_

Church fails in its mission if it stops doing either \_\_\_\_\_

Requires constant \_\_\_\_\_ and innovation

**Be a church that is effective across \_\_\_\_\_**

\_\_\_\_\_ all: widows of all languages got the needed help

\_\_\_\_\_ all and \_\_\_\_\_ all: people who knew and were \_\_\_\_\_ by the

widows led and implemented the help

**Approve and bless more “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”: leaders and workers**

\_\_\_\_\_ by all (known, and are known by)

\_\_\_\_\_ -filled: walking with Jesus

Have (growing) \_\_\_\_\_ for the task

## Reflection

- What threatens to distract you from a commitment to the Word and prayer? What steps can you take to overcome that threat?
- Considering ministry that is IN and OUT, which direction do you personally tend to focus? Why is that? Is there a way in which you might need to be stretched in the other direction?
- Where do you see issues of culture and power that might cause some people to be overlooked like the widows in Acts?