

Gospel Power Spreads (Acts 6-7)

God's Power Continues – Part 6
Life Church St. Louis – May 10, 2015
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Acts 1:8 (NIV) But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

1. See problems as _____ for God's power

Acts 6:1 (NIV) In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.

1A. See yourself as part of the _____

Acts 6:2 (NIV) 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.

1B. Be _____ of the Spirit and wisdom

Acts 6:3-4 (NIV) Brothers, 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 and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

2. _____ God for the impossible

Acts 6:5 (NIV) 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.

2A. Live in _____ to godly authority

Acts 6:6 (NIV) They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

2B. _____ God's Word and power

Acts 6:7-8 (NIV) 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. Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, did great wonders and miraculous signs among the people.

3. Be prepared for _____

Acts 6:12-13 (NIV) So they stirred up the people and the elders and the teachers of the law. They seized Stephen and brought him before the Sanhedrin. They produced false witnesses, who testified, "This fellow never stops speaking against this holy place and against the law.

3A. Know _____ is with you

Acts 7:54-55 (NIV) When they heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

3B. Practice _____ at all times

Acts 7:59-60 (NIV) While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.

Gospel Power Spreads (Acts 6-7) Study Guide

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Intro. In what ways is your family, your Jerusalem, according to Acts 1:8?

What responsibility do parents have in seeing their children saved and growing in God (Proverbs 22:6, Ephesians 6:4)?

How can every story in the Bible teach us principles for life (Romans 15:4, 2 Timothy 3:16-17)?

- 1A. Why does spiritual growth often bring problems with it (Acts 6:1)?
- 1B. How is it significant that the solution to the problem of the Grecian widows came from the Grecian Jewish community (Acts 6:2-3)?
- 1C. Explain what the criterion for leadership of being full of the Spirit and wisdom meant (Acts 6:3-4). Why did the apostles not handle the situation by themselves?
- 1D. In what ways are problems in a family an opportunity to see God's power displayed?

- 2A. Why is being full of faith an important characteristic for a parent or a church leader (Acts 6:5)?
- 2B. How do you see godly authority functioning in Acts 6:1-6?
- 2C. Explain how the resolution of the problem enabled the church to increase rapidly (Acts 6:7). Why is it significant that Stephen, who was not an apostle, did great wonders and miraculous signs (Acts 6:8)?
- 2D. In what ways does a parent need the power of God in order to raise their children?
- 3A. Why do you think Stephen was persecuted by the Jewish community (Acts 6:12-13)?
- 3B. What does Stephen's vision of heaven tell us about how God viewed Stephen (Acts 7:54-55)?
- 3C. In his death, how did Stephen follow Jesus' example (Acts 7:59-60)?
- 3D. In what ways does a parent need to sacrifice in order to see their children walk with the Lord?
- 3E. What types of opposition does a Christian parent face in this world in raising children for God?