

Helping the Family

Kingdom value or skill you hope to see developed: Leadership skills

Who this is for: Everyone

Desired impact on disciples: Willingness to become an apprentice

Desired impact on campus/home/others: new visions of leadership

Hear the word

Acts 6:1-7

In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. 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. 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 and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." 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. They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. 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.

- What is going on in this passage?
- Who are the leaders? What do they do?
- How are new leaders chosen?
- What is the result of these actions?

Respond actively

In the family of God, many different people work together to fulfill a mission: to see the word of God spread. You, too, can be part of this mission. Write down answers to these questions and discuss them in a group.

- What do you most enjoy doing in the group?
- What are some things you do well? (If you are not sure, ask others.)
- What would you enjoy learning to do?
- How do these fit into the mission of God?

After discussing, choose one thing you could focus on next semester that would be part of the mission. For example:

- You enjoy welcoming people and learning about them, so you come early to meetings once a month to welcome new friends to the group
- You are good at asking thoughtful questions, so you help write questions for the Bible study
- You like technology and music, so you learn how to run a sound system for a large group worship session

Debrief and Interpret

Use these questions throughout the semester.

- How did it feel to talk about your skills and gifts? To tell others about their strengths?
- Are/Were you excited about this new opportunity? Why or why not? How do you feel now?

- What have you learned about God? About yourself?

Expand the influence

Increase the amount