

THE FIRST DEACONS – ACTS 6

INTRODUCTION: In chapter 5 the problem in the assembly was _____. In this chapter it is _____ in the ranks of the believers.

I: A FAMILY DIFFICULTY – 1-7

The problem was, in part, an evidence of _____. Note the rapid growth ...

- a) 2:41 – _____ believers
- b) 2:47 – believers added _____
- c) 5:14 – up to _____ men
- d) 6:1 – the number _____
- e) 6:7 – multiplied _____

How to solve the problem ... put first things first!

- a) _____ (vs. 4 and 6)
- b) _____ of God (v. 4)
- c) Meeting _____ needs (deacons) ... the _____ were relieved for their special _____ ministry.

What was the immediate result? “And the Word of God _____” (v. 7).

II: A FAITHFUL DEACON – 8-15

- a) A good _____ among the believers (v. 8)
- b) Spirit-filled (vs. 8 and 10)
- c) Practical _____ (v. 10)
- d) A two-fold witness
 1. What he _____ (v. 10)
 2. What he _____ (v. 8)
- e) God gave _____ to Stephen’s faith by _____ His glory from his _____ (v. 15)

PRACTICAL LESSONS:

1. Murmuring is a sin of the _____ (Galatians 5:20). God warns us against it in I Corinthians 10:10.

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2. Some churches have completely reversed this chapter. Leaders take care of luncheons instead of preparing _____.
3. Churches must be careful in selecting _____ and _____ (I Timothy 3:1-13)
4. “A minimum of _____ for a maximum of work” was the policy of G. Campbell Morgan.
5. No church will grow because it has the proper organization ... it must have
 - a) Spiritual _____
 - b) _____
 - c) A steady diet of the _____.

NEXT WEEK: “The First Martyr” WHO? _____