



it starts with
one

IT STARTS WITH ONE, PART 8: GROWING PAINS

“You cannot grow without change and change is never comfortable. A lot of people want the church to grow as long as it doesn’t make them uncomfortable. But if the church is going to continue to grow, we must be willing to serve outside our comfort zones.” - Rick Warren

BIG IDEA: Following Jesus leads to growth and growing people change, but sometimes growth hurts!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When was the last time you experienced growing pains in your own body? How did it feel to face a physical limitation due to age or wear and tear?
2. *With your Bible or Bible App, read Acts 6:1*

But as the believers rapidly multiplied, there were rumblings of discontent. The Greek-speaking believers complained about the Hebrew-speaking believers, saying that their widows were being discriminated against in the daily distribution of food.

Acts 6:1 (NLT)

3. Why do you think the Greek-speaking believers were being discriminated against? What did this have to do with growth?
4. *With your Bible or Bible App, read Acts 6:2-6.*

So the Twelve called a meeting of all the believers. They said, “We apostles should spend our time teaching the word of God, not running a food program. And so, brothers, select seven men who are well respected and are full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will give them this responsibility. Then we apostles can spend our time in prayer and teaching the word.” Everyone liked this idea, and they chose the following: Stephen (a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit), Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas of Antioch (an earlier convert to the Jewish faith). These seven were presented to the apostles, who prayed for them as they laid their hands on them.

Acts 6:2-6 (NLT)

5. Why do you think the Apostles delegated the food program? What qualifications did they specify for those who would lead the program? Why were those qualities important?
6. During the message Carlo said, “Most of our growing pains are self-induced? Do you agree with that statement? If so, how do we manage the “pain” in our church community?
7. When it comes to growth, are you a pain or a part of healthy growth?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

How should oneChurch.tv continue to address our numerical and spiritual growth? What can you do this week to respond like the early Church?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

So God's message continued to spread. The number of believers greatly increased in Jerusalem, and many of the Jewish priests were converted, too.

Acts 6:7 (NLT)