

Southside Baptist Church
Sunday Morning – 3-1-26
Christianity 103 – Message 6 Part 2
God reveals additional leadership.

1. Introduction:

a. Taking a look back:

- 1) In the previous chapter the Apostles counted themselves worthy to suffer shame for the name of Jesus Christ.
 - a) The church did not stop or change its strategy.
- 2) A problem arose within the Church.
 - a) It had progressed to the point of murmuring.
- 3) When a church grows, the structure of the church must grow as well.
 - a) “function” – the doing, executing your calling or office.
- 4) The problem? It was getting harder for the Apostles to minister to everyone.
- 5) God provided wisdom and a solution.
- 6) They were looking for 7 men.
 - a) “honest report”, “full of the Holy Ghost” and “wisdom.”

b. Taking a look ahead:

- 1) This chapter is packed with truth, principles and processes that need to be evaluated thoroughly by the church and its leadership.
- 2) You see here what happens when the leaders seek the Lord, obey and communicate.

2. The leaders and the body function as unto the Lord. Acts 6:4-6

a. Verse 4 –

- 1) You see here God’s strategy for His church concerning His under-shepherds.
 - a) II Timothy 4:2 –
- 2) This would enable the Apostles to be more effective.

b. Verse 5 –

- 1) This is important – “the saying pleased the whole multitude...”
 - a) Why is this important? What had once separated them was now bringing them together because of prayer, godly wisdom, immediate obedience and God working through leadership.

c. Who are these men?

- 1) Stephen – “a man full of faith and of the holy Ghost.”
- 2) Philip – the evangelist mentioned in Acts 21:8.
- 3) Prochorus – Church tradition states that he became a bishop of Nicomedia and possibly the companion of the Apostle John.
- 4) Nicanor – No other information exists in the Bible.
- 5) Timon – No other information exists in the Bible.
- 6) Parmenas – No other information exists in the Bible.
- 7) Nicolas – a proselyte of Antioch.

d. Only God!

- 1) This is something you may not know about this story.
 - a) All these names are Greek names which –
 - b) Philippians 2:1-4 –

e. In unity they took the next step. Acts 6:6

- 1) Verse 6 –
 - a) They prayed and God confirmed these men.

f. They kept going and growing.

- 1) Verse 7 –
 - a) “the word of God increased” –
 - b) “great company of the priest were obedient to the faith” –
- 2) Doing church God’s way works.
3. Is this where the office of Deacon comes from? Acts 6
 - a. The title Deacon.
 - 1) Verse 1 – “ministration” –
 - 2) You see how God worked through this situation.
 - b. His testimony, his character. I Timothy 3:8-13
 - 1) “Grave” – worthy of respect, a man of character.
 - 2) “Not doubled-tongued” – speak the truth to everyone. Does not engage in gossip.
 - 3) “Not given to much wine” – choosing what is expedient we abstain from the use of alcohol.
 - 4) “Not greedy of filthy lucre” – avoid dishonest gain.
 - 5) “Holding the mystery of faith in a pure conscience” – growing in his ability to handle the Word of God with understanding.
 - 6) “First be proved” – the men must be tested first.
 - 7) “Blameless” – being above reproach.
 - c. Her testimony, her character.
 - 1) “Grave” – a woman worthy of respect, a woman of character.
 - 2) “Not slanderers” – cannot be given to being slanderous or falsely accusing others.
 - 3) “Sober” – being vigilant, temperate, self-control.
 - 4) “Faithful in all things” – sees her role as a Deacon’s wife as a priority and is to be faithful in ministry.
 - d. His family:
 - 1) “Husband of one wife” – we evaluate future Deacon candidates by –
 - 2) “ruling their children and their own house well” – a testimony of loving his wife and leading his family.
4. Today’s Takeaways:
 - a. It is important to see God’s strategy for His Pastors.
 - b. Doing church God’s way works.
 - c. Are you willing to do church God’s way?