

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

1. Introduction:

a. Taking a look back:

- 1) The Apostles were brought before the religious leaders and commanded –
- 2) The Apostles responded – “We ought to obey God rather than men.”
- 3) Peter spoke the truth to these religious leaders.
- 4) Gamaliel tried to offer wisdom for this situation.
- 5) The Apostles are threatened and then beaten.
- 6) The church did not get distracted but kept its focus on the mission.

b. Taking a look ahead:

- 1) The Apostles survived and counted themselves worthy to have suffered shame for Jesus.
- 2) The church did not stop or change its strategy.
- 3) Remember – if Satan can't hinder the church from without, he will try from within.
- 4) Unity is precious and necessary for God to accomplish His will in and through our lives.
  - a) Proverbs 6:19 –
  - b) Matthew 11:25 –
- 5) A problem has come up within the church.

2. A problem comes up. Acts 6:1

a. Growing pains. “When the number of the disciples was multiplied.”

- 1) The church is experiencing growing pains.
  - a) When a church grows, the structure of the church must grow so that it can continue to function effectively.
  - b) It is getting harder for the Apostles to minister to everyone.

b. Understanding both groups. Acts 6:1

- 1) “there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews.”
  - a) “murmuring” – secret displeasure.
  - b) Hebrews – those who remained in Judea and used the Hebrew language.
  - c) Hellenists – believers scattered among the Gentiles who spoke Greek and used the Septuagint.”
- 2) The problem –
  - a) This conflict finally came out through complaints about food distribution.
- 3) Application:
  - a) When problems like this arise in the church, it presents the leaders with an opportunity.

3. A solution is presented. Acts 6:2

a. They come together to meet.

- 1) “Then the twelve called the multitude of disciples unto them, and said...”
- 2) “It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.”
  - a) I appreciate the Apostles here.
- 3) Pastors/teachers who are preaching and teaching regularly need time to pray and study, which means other leaders need to be developed to share the work.

4. Looking for a few godly men. Acts 6:3

a. Solution.

1) God moved in these Apostles to put forth a solution.

2) Look for 7 men. What are they looking for?

a) "honest report" – approved, honorable testimony.

b) "full of the Holy Ghost" – evidence of His presence and control.

c) "wisdom" – skilled in management of affairs.

d) Once they had unity, they could appoint them over this ministry.

3) Application.

a) Part of the process we use here at Southside flows from this.

b. The Body is included.

1) Would it be hard to find these 7 men?

2) What might have happened had they not adjusted?

5. What a blessing when the Body functions as unto the Lord. Acts 6:4-6

a. Verse 4 –

1) You see God's strategy for His Church concerning His under-shepherds.

b. Verse 5 –

1) What do you see? Do you see unity here?

c. Verse 6 –

1) Leadership is functioning, the Body is in unity, and this is driving the enemy mad.

d. Verse 7

1) Doing church God's way works!

6. Today's Takeaway:

a. Problems will always come up in the local church.

b. Is Acts 6:7 something you really want to see and be a part of?