

GRACE AND

POWER

ACTS 6:1-8
DR. FAVOUR IBOM

Acts 6:1–8 (NIV)

1 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. 2 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. 3 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 4 and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.”



Acts 6:1–8 (NIV)

5 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. 6 They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. 7 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. 8 Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people.



INTRODUCTION

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OUR VISION:

To raise up anointed disciple-makers who are empowered to change their world for Christ.



2023 - OUR YEAR OF GREAT GRACE

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THE POWER OF GOD
IS AVAILABLE TO YOU
AS A BELIEVER AND
NOT JUST TO THE PASTOR

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Acts 6:1–2 (NIV)

1 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. 2 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.”



YOU CAN BE FULL OF THE SPIRIT

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ACTS 6:1-8

Acts 6:3 (NIV)

3 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



Ephesians 5:18 (NLT)

18 Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit,



YOU CAN BE FULL OF WISDOM

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Acts 6:3 (NIV)

3 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



WISDOM IS EXPEDIENT TO EFFECTIVELY USE GOD'S POWER

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James 1:5 (NLT)

5 If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking.



James 3:17 (NLT)

17 But the wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy and the fruit of good deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere.



YOU CAN BE FULL OF FAITH

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Acts 6:5 (NIV)

5 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.



IT REQUIRES FAITH TO TAP INTO THE POWER OF GOD

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Mark 11:22–24 (NLT)

22 Then Jesus said to the disciples, “Have faith in God. 23 I tell you the truth, you can say to this mountain, ‘May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea,’ and it will happen. But **you must really believe it will happen and have no doubt in your heart.** 24 I tell you, you can pray for anything, and if you believe that you’ve received it, it will be yours.



YOU CAN BE FULL OF GRACE

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Acts 6:8 (NIV)

8 Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people.



John 1:16 (ESV)

16 For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.



John 1:16 (AMP)

16 For out of His fullness (abundance) we have all received [all had a share and we were all supplied with] one grace after another and spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing and even favor upon favor and gift [heaped] upon gift.



YOU CAN BE FULL OF POWER

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Acts 6:8 (NIV)

8 Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people.



BEING FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT RELEASES GOD'S POWER IN YOU

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Acts 1:8 (NIV)

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”



YOU CAN BE USED BY GOD FOR MIRACLES

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ACTS 6:1-8

Acts 6:8 (NIV)

8 Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people.



CONCLUSION

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Isaiah 11:2 (NLT)

2 And the Spirit of the Lord will rest on him— the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.



Luke 2:52 (NLT)

52 Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and all the people.



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