The Oaks Community Church
Worship Guide

November 8, 2026

I. A Call to Worship

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.
2 Corinthians 3:17 (NIV)

II. Family Confession & Greeting

One Church, Many Generations

> As an Oaks church family, God has called us to be one family across every generation. Young and old need one another as we worship, learn, serve, and grow together. Together, we are growing in our faith in Jesus, one generation to the next.

One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts. Psalm 145:4 (NIV)

III. Worshipping God through Our Offerings

You do well and excel in every respect—in unstoppable faith, in powerful preaching, in revelation knowledge, in your passionate devotion, and in sharing the love we have shown to you. So make sure that you also excel in grace-filled generosity. 2 Corinthians 8:7 (TPT)



IV. WHEN PRESSURE BECOMES PROGRESS
Acts 6:1-7
Pastor Nick Preston

“In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews...” - Acts 6:1

1. CHRIST REFINES HIS CHURCH BY EXPOSING THE NEED

"...their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food..." - Acts 6:1

THE OAKS
A HOME FOR THE NATIONS

2. CHRIST REFINES HIS CHURCH BY FORMING HIS PEOPLE

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. Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom…" - Acts 6:2–3

"Choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom." - Acts 6:3

"Above all else, guard your heart. For everything you do flows from it." - Proverbs 4:23

"Because of the LORD'S great love we are not consumed..." - Lamentations 3:22

3. CHRIST REFINES HIS CHURCH BY EMPOWERING HIS PEOPLE

"This proposal pleased the whole group." - Acts 6:5

"Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things." - Colossians 3:2

ALL IN
ALL OF JESUS.
FOR ALL THE WORLD.
TAKES ALL OF US.

4. CHRIST REFINES HIS CHURCH BY MULTIPLYING THE IMPACT

"So the word of God spread." - Acts 6:7

"A large number of priests became obedient to the faith." - Acts 6:7

"Do not merely listen to the word... Do what it says." - James 1:22

Action Steps to Consider:

1. Who is God asking you to see that's been overlooked?

2. How is the condition of your heart?

3. What is your next "yes"?

4. What could Jesus do through a church that is truly "ALL IN"?

Community Group Discussion Guide

Acts 6:1–7 | Christ Refines His Church: When Pressure Becomes Progress
Big Idea: Christ forms His church by forming His people, and every one of us has a part to play.
Opening: Read Acts 6:1–7 together.

1. When conflict reveals something deeper
In Acts 6:1, a complaint arises because some widows are being overlooked. Why do you think even healthy, growing churches experience conflict? How can we distinguish between a complaint that simply expresses frustration and one that reveals a legitimate need?

2. Becoming a Home for the Nations
The early church included people from different cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Read Ephesians 2:19–22. What is the difference between being a diverse group of people who attend the same church and genuinely becoming a spiritual family? What could we do to help The Oaks become more of a Home for the Nations?

3. Recognizing our blind spots
One statement from Sunday's message was, "You don't have to intend to overlook somebody to overlook them." Why is it sometimes difficult to recognize people or needs we've overlooked? Who might God be asking you, or our church, to notice more intentionally?

4. The condition of our hearts
Read Acts 6:3 and Proverbs 4:23. The apostles looked for people who were full of the Spirit and wisdom, not simply people with the right skills. Why does God place such importance on who we are becoming rather than simply what we accomplish? What can difficult circumstances reveal about the condition of our hearts?

5. Everybody has something to offer
Read 1 Corinthians 12:4–7, 12–27. In Acts 6, the apostles recognized that the church's mission required different people fulfilling different callings. Why do we sometimes undervalue less visible forms of service? How can we better recognize and encourage the gifts God has given each person?

6. What is your next YES?
The seven men in Acts 6 were willing to step into a need. In the message, we heard stories of people whose ministry journeys began with a simple YES. Why do we sometimes hesitate to serve or respond to God's prompting? Is there a particular next step you sense God might be inviting you to take?
7. What could Jesus do through a church that's ALL IN?
Read Acts 6:7. The chapter begins with division but ends with the Word of God spreading and disciples multiplying. What changed in the church between verses 1 and 7? As we enter our ALL IN season, what might it look like for us to be ALL IN—not simply financially, but in our relationships, service, spiritual growth, and shared mission?
Closing Prayer
Invite group members to share which of these four questions from Sunday particularly challenged them:

- Who is God asking you to see that's been overlooked?
- How is the condition of your heart?
- What is your next YES?
- What could Jesus do through a church that is truly ALL IN?

Close by praying that Jesus would continue refining The Oaks into a healthy, Spirit-filled church where everyone belongs, everyone contributes, and the gospel advances.
ALL OF JESUS. FOR ALL THE WORLD. TAKES ALL OF US.

