

A map of the Mission Viejo area in Southern California, featuring a central text overlay. The map shows residential streets, green spaces, and several blue location pins. A semi-transparent grey rectangle is centered over the map, containing the text "It Begins With COMMUNITY". The word "COMMUNITY" is in a large, white, outlined, sans-serif font, while "It Begins With" is in a smaller, white, cursive font above it. The background map includes labels for "Lake Mission Viejo", "Tijeras Creek Golf Club", "Oso Viejo Community Park", and "Coto de Caza Golf & Racquet Club". Major roads like Highway 94 and Highway 18 are also visible.

It Begins With
COMMUNITY



It Begins with Community

Part 6: The Organization of the Community (Healthy Leadership)

Acts 6:1-7

¹ Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. ² And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables.

Acts 6:1-7

³ Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴ But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." ⁵ And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch.

Acts 6:1-7

⁶ These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷ And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.



Without Organization Things Get Neglected (vv. 1-2)

Acts 6:1-2

¹ Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. ² And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables.



Two Outcomes from Healthy Organization:

1. People are cared for
2. People's gifts are released

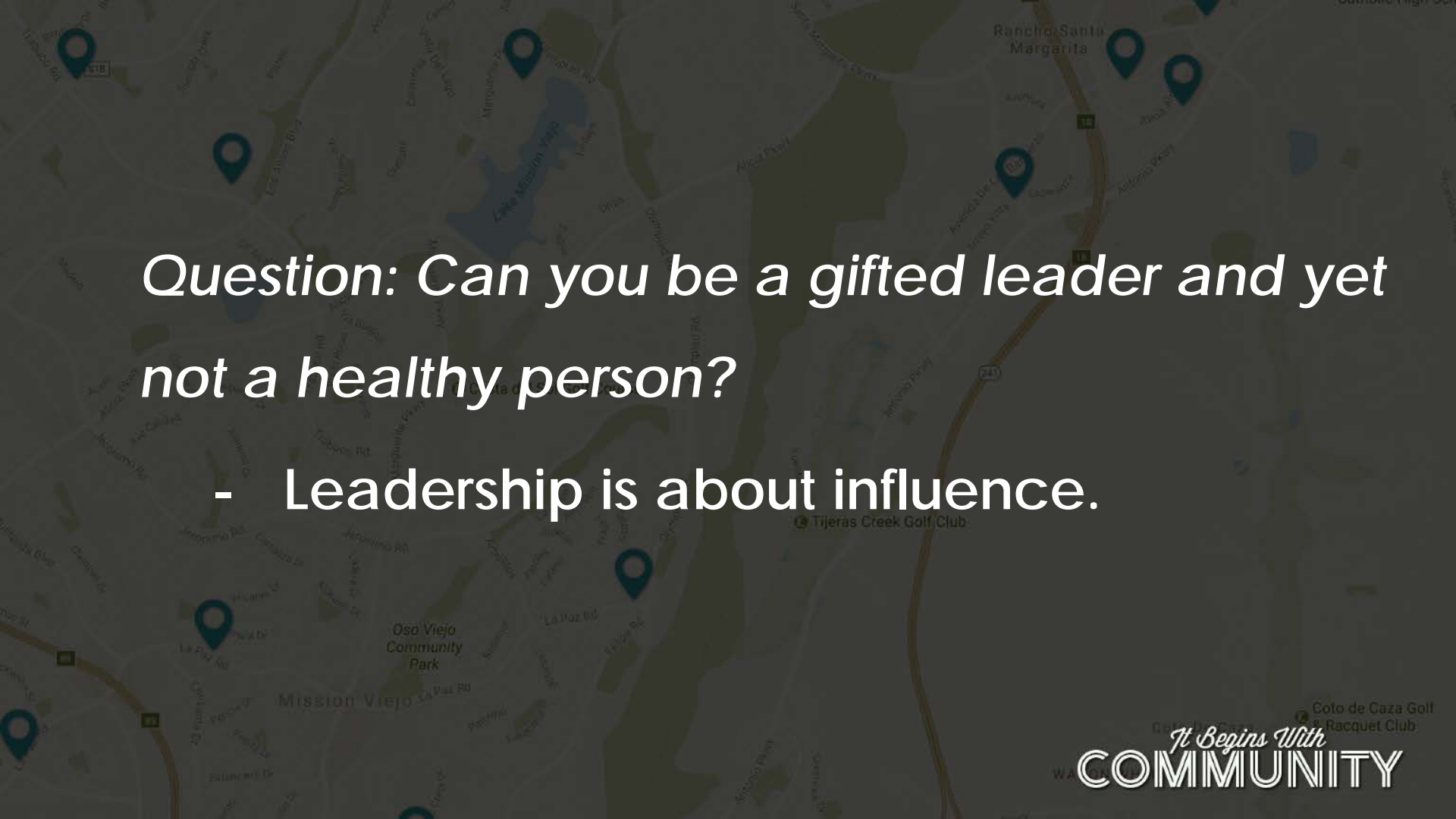


Organization Requires Healthy Leadership (vv. 3-5)

It Begins With
COMMUNITY

Acts 6:3-5

³ Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴ But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." ⁵ And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch.



Question: Can you be a gifted leader and yet not a healthy person?

- Leadership is about influence.

*Question: So what wisdom does scripture
give to help identify a healthy leader?*

- 3 Qualities of a Healthy Leader (v. 3)



1. *Committed to the community-“ from among you”*

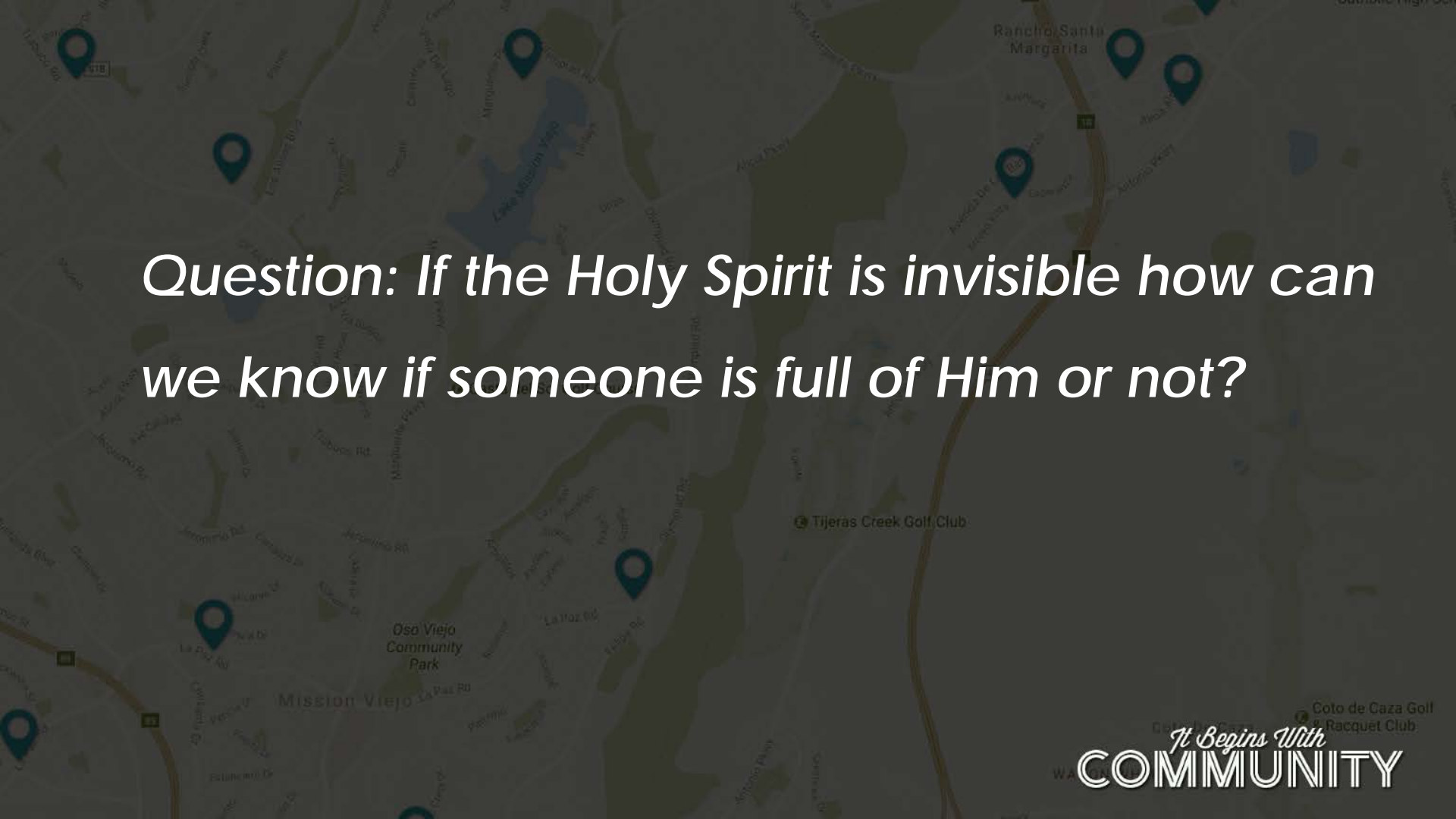
- “from among you” implies their relational investment in this community
- “from among you” implies their personal identification with this community

2. Willing to be accountable to others- "of good repute"

James 3:1

¹ "Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness."

3. *Spirit-controlled lifestyle - "full of the Spirit & of wisdom"*



Question: If the Holy Spirit is invisible how can we know if someone is full of Him or not?

It Begins With
COMMUNITY



Healthy Leaders Help Communities Flourish (v. 6-7)

It Begins With
COMMUNITY

Acts 6:6-7

⁶ These they set before the apostles, *and they prayed and laid their hands on them.*

⁷ And the *word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly* in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.



Two signs of a flourishing community:

1. God's word increases in influence in our lives
2. Increasing #s of people committing to follow the ways of Jesus

A map of Mission Viejo, California, featuring a central grey rectangular overlay with white text. The map shows residential streets, green parks, and blue water bodies like Lake Mission Viejo. Several blue location pins are scattered across the map. The text 'It Begins With' is in a cursive font, and 'COMMUNITY' is in a large, bold, outlined sans-serif font.

It Begins With
COMMUNITY

Tijeras Creek Golf Club

Oso Viejo
Community
Park

Mission Viejo La Paz Rd

Coto De Caza

Coto de Caza Golf
& Racquet Club

WAGON WHEEL