

The Early Church Is Tested – Part 3

Test 3: Dealing with Prejudices (Acts 6:1-7)

- I. Problem #1 – The Hellenistic widows are being _____ (Acts 6:1)
- II. Problem #2 – The growth of the church was making it difficult for the Apostles to do _____ in the church (Acts 6:2)
- III. The solution – Choose leaders to _____ the distribution of the food (Acts 6:3-4)
 - A. What were the requirements for the leaders? (Acts 6:3a)
 1. They must be men of _____ and have a good _____
 2. They must be men that are _____ and _____ by the Holy Spirit
 3. They have the discernment and management skills needed to _____ distribute the food
 - B. What were the responsibilities of the Deacons? (Acts 6:1-4)
 1. Make sure there is _____ food distribution (Acts 6:1, 3)
 2. Keep the Apostles from being _____ from their work (Acts 6:2, 4)
- IV. The leaders are chosen (Acts 6:5)
- V. The leaders are _____ for ministry (Acts 6:6)
 - A. They sat under the _____ of the Apostles
 - B. The apostles prayed over the leaders as they prepared to _____ their new duties
 - C. The apostles gave _____ to the new leaders by laying hands on them
- VI. The church continues to grow (Acts 6:7)

Questions to Ponder

- I. Are you fulfilling your _____ in the church?
- II. In what ways can you _____ the church leadership?
- III. As the needs of the church change, are we willing to _____ our methods, organizational structure, and ministries to meet those needs?
- IV. Are you ready to handle _____?
 - A. Are you quick to pass _____ when things go wrong, or do you look for a _____?
 - B. Are you _____ to turn the problem over to the right people?

- V. What _____ do you harbor against your fellow believers?