



# Discussion Notes

Recognizing & Releasing • Acts 6:1–7

March 8, 2026 • Dave Solmes

## Main Theme:

The early church prioritized the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Despite being a people filled and led by Holy Spirit, they still faced internal conflict. In this passage, we read about a time where their unity was tested and the meeting of a very practical need was causing conflict within the community. To protect unity within the community, everyone needed to rally together, address the concern, and find a solution.

## Sermon Outline:

**Verse 1:** At this time, believing Jews were generally divided into two groups. There were those who had remained in Judea, near Jerusalem, who used the Hebrew language, and who were appropriately called "Hebraic." The other group consisted of those who were scattered among the Gentiles, who spoke the Greek language, and who used the Greek translation of the Old Testament. These were called "Hellenists," from a word meaning "Greek" or "Greek-speaking." Our text tells us of a certain time, when a complaint against the Hebraic Jews was brought to the apostles by the Hellenistic Jews. They were suggesting that the Hellenistic widows were being overlooked in the communities daily distribution of food.

**Verse 2-4:** The Apostles encouraged the appointment of a leadership team:

- Full of the Spirit
- Wisdom
- Godly Reputation

**Verse 5:** There was agreement among all the people. This division of labour highlights the importance of different roles within the church: each contributing, in their own way, to the overall purpose of caring for the community & spreading of the Gospel.

**Verse 7:** The word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.



# Study Questions

Recognizing & Releasing • Acts 6:1–7

March 8, 2026 • Dave Solmes

## Engage:

- Read the text. At your initial reading, what stands out to you? Think about key themes, words, phrases, or people.
- What questions do you have about the text?

## Observe:

- How is the conflict that the church is experiencing not surprising? This young church is experiencing growth, interfacing with more and more human need, and serving people that have cultural diversity.
- Who are the people in conflict in this text, and why was it so important for the apostles to address the concerns quickly?
- How did the apostles' understanding of the gospel move and motivate them to act quickly in this conflict?
- Why did the apostles ask for the recruiting of other leaders to help wait on tables?
- What would have been in jeopardy if the apostles forsook their primary calling of teaching and preaching?
- Why did the Apostles choose the qualifications of servants (deacons) that they did?
- Why was it important for this young church to recognize and appreciate that all Christian service is spiritual and needs Holy Spirit anointing and wisdom?
- Why is recognizing and releasing important for communities to continue to grow?
- Why is the strategy that the apostles used to address the problem such a great example on how to deal with conflict?

**Apply:**

- What is your key takeaway from this passage?
- Why is important to deal with conflict in a healthy way?
- What are areas the could cause conflict and concern within churches that will test the unity of the congregation?
- Are there people that you have conflict with right now?
- What is important for you to pray about and possibly do about this conflict?
- Pray for each other.