



## Acts 6:1-7

### A Healthy, Growing Church

Speaker: BJ Chursinoff

*So those who accepted his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand people were added to them.* - Acts 2:41

*Every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.* - Acts 2:47b

*But many of those who heard the message believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.* - Acts 4:4

*Believers were added to the Lord in increasing numbers—multitudes of both men and women.* - Acts 5:14

#### Different ways a local church can grow:

1. Visitors coming to church for something other than Jesus
2. Christians Church-hopping
3. Christians leave an unhealthy church to join a healthy one
4. Christians who aren't going to church at all start going again
5. Kids grow up in a Christian home and become Christians

*Start a youth out on his way; even when he grows old he will not depart from it.* - Proverbs 22:6

6. Unbelievers get saved by hearing and believing the Gospel

**V. 1:** A healthy, growing church is \_\_\_\_\_.

*So those who accepted his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand people were added to them. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayer.* - Acts 2:41-42

*But many of those who heard the message believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.* - Acts 4:4

*When they had prayed, the place where they were assembled was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God boldly.* - Acts 4:31

*With great power the apostles were giving testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was on all of them.* - Acts 4:33

*"Go and stand in the temple, and tell the people all about this life." Hearing this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach... Someone came and reported to them, "Look! The men you put in jail are standing in the temple and teaching the people." - Acts 5:20-21a, 25*

*Every day in the temple, and in various homes, they continued teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.* - Acts 5:42

#### 3 ways the Gospel can be shared with people:

1. Jesus can personally do it Himself
2. A large crowd can hear the gospel from one person
3. In one-to-one conversations

#### 4 things you need to begin sharing the Gospel:

1. You need to be willing
2. You need to be trained (discipled)
3. You need to pray
4. You need to do it

**VV. 1-2:** A healthy, growing church is \_\_\_\_\_.

**V. 1:** A healthy, growing church will have \_\_\_\_\_ within it.

*More imperfect Christians X More time spent together = More chances for relational problems.*

**VV. 2-6:** A healthy, growing church will have

\_\_\_\_\_ within it.

**To be an Apostle you had to have:**

1. been an eyewitness of the resurrected Jesus (1 Corinthians 1:9)
2. been personally commissioned by Him (Matthew 28:18-20)
3. performed signs and wonders (2 Corinthians 12:12)

*After they had preached the gospel in that town and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, to Iconium, and to Antioch, strengthening the disciples by encouraging them to continue in the faith and by telling them, "It is necessary to go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God." When they had appointed elders for them in every church and prayed with fasting, they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed. - Acts 14:21-23*

*The reason I left you in Crete was to set right what was left undone and, as I directed you, to appoint elders in every town. - Titus 1:5*

**To be an Elder you have:** to meet the criteria laid out for us in the Scriptures in places like 1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:6-8, and 1 Peter 5:1-3.

*For there was not a needy person among them because all those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the proceeds of what was sold, and laid them at the apostles' feet. This was then distributed to each person as any had need. - Acts 4:34-35*

*And he himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ, until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of God's Son, growing into maturity with a stature measured by Christ's fullness. Then we will no longer be little children, tossed by the waves and blown around by every wind of teaching, by human cunning with cleverness in the techniques of deceit. But speaking the truth in love, let us grow in every way into him who is the head—Christ. From him the whole body, fitted and knit together by every supporting ligament, promotes the growth of the body for building itself up in love by the proper working of each individual part. - Ephesians 4:11-16*