

## Play Your Part

ACTS 6:1-7

### The growth of the church to this point in Acts

- **After Peter's Pentecost sermon**  
*Acts 2:41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.*
- **In the new community**  
*Acts 2:47 ...praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*
- **After Peter's healing sermon**  
*Acts 4:4 But many who heard the message believed, and the number of men grew to about five thousand.*
- **During the daily ministry of the apostles**  
*Acts 5:14 Nevertheless, more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number.*

### Problem: Growing congregations may lead to \_\_\_\_\_ ministry opportunities

- **Neglecting those \_\_\_\_\_**  
*Acts 6:1 In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.*
- **Neglecting what is most \_\_\_\_\_ for what is \_\_\_\_\_**  
*Acts 6:2 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.*

### Solution: Growing congregations need \_\_\_\_\_ servants to meet the needs of the body

- **Having the right \_\_\_\_\_**  
*Acts 6:3 Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them...*
- **Having been chosen \_\_\_\_\_**  
*Acts 6:5 This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism.*
- **Having been \_\_\_\_\_**  
*Acts 6:6 They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.*

### Result: \_\_\_\_\_ growth and \_\_\_\_\_ ministers

- Acts 6:4 ...and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.*
- Acts 6:7 So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.*

### Application: \_\_\_\_\_ your part