

PÜWER OF A CHANGED LIFE

Navigating Change

ACTS 6:1-7

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	A. A problem surfaced between the Hellenistic Jews and the native Hebrews.
	B. The Hellenistic Jews felt that their widows were not getting fair treatment.
II.	WHEN NAVIGATING CHANGE: the help of others. (vv. 2-6)
	A. The apostles responded by appointing specific individuals to make sure that the distribution of food was fair.
	B. The apostles stated that they had to continue with preaching the Word of God. (v. 2)
	C. The apostles noted the qualifications of those selected. (v. 3)
	1. There should be seven men.
	2. They should have a good reputation.
	3. They should be "full of the Spirit and of wisdom."4. They would be specifically over the task of food distribution.
	D. The apostles could then devote themselves to prayer and ministry of the Word. (v. 4)
	E. Seven men were chosen and confirmed by the apostles. (vv. 5-6)
Ш	. WHEN NAVIGATING CHANGE: what God is doing through the process. (v. 7)
	A. The Word of God kept on spreading.
	B. The number of disciples multiplied in Jerusalem.
	C. Even a great many priests were believing the message!
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ノ	Change IS WILL BE DETERMINED BY YOUR response.
C	Two tips as you face changes in your life:
	1. Keep your straight!
	2!



Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal His truth and wisdom as you go through this lesson.

1. Read Acts 6:1-7. As growth exploded, the early church had to solve a potentially divisive problem through further organization. What changes had to be made here? Yet what things did the disciples not change? Why?

"It was not desirable for the apostles to neglect the Word of God in order to serve tables. ... To involve themselves in the details of serving meals and handling money matters would take them away from their calling. Instead, they would devote themselves to prayer, and to the ministry of the Word. The apostles knew their priority was praying, preaching, teaching and studying the Word. They would let nothing, however pressing, distract them from those duties. ... Many in the ministry today have left the emphasis on prayer and the Word of God. They are so involved in the administrative details of their church that they have little time left for intercession and study. Yet pastors are given to the church 'for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ' (Eph 4:12). Their calling is to mature the saints so they can do the work of the ministry. By neglecting that calling, they doom their congregations to languish in spiritual infancy. Programs are no substitute for the power of God and His Word. Those whom God has called to the ministry of prayer and the Word must make it their priority."

- 2. Why do you think the Holy Spirit included this event in the Scriptures?
- 3. What modern examples can you think of that would be similar to this issue the early church faced?
- 4. What principles about the way the church handled this change should we apply today?
- 5. The church is not a corporation or a commune but a living organism which requires structure and organization in order to function—yet it responds to needs and to what the Spirit is doing. How has this sermon helped you see your own role in the living organism of the church even as changes continues to happen around us?
- 6. How can you pray today and the next week for your pastors and church staff? How can you encourage and affirm their work for the Lord?

JOHN MACARTHUR

A WONDERFUL OFFER

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

- 1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
- 2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
- 3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
- 4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9) "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16 NASB) You can use this prayer to express your decision to God: "Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen."

For more about having a personal relationship with Jesus visit www.ccbcfamily.org/nextsteps.

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events.

WOMEN IN THE WORD: OUR FAVORITE STORIES From toddlers to adults, everyone loves stories. Whether we are telling or hearing it. each of us has a favorite one. Ready to have a new favorite? Join Women in the Word this summer as they hear life-changing stories about Jesus and press into knowing Him deeper! Find times, locations and registration by visiting www.ccbcfamily.org/wiw.

BAND OF BROTHERS: THE GODLY MAN'S PICTURE Are you looking to grow in your understanding of what it means to be a godly man? Come to Band of Brother's The Godly Man's Picture, a six-week study where we will dive into the lives of six different characters from the Bible. Through exploring their stories, we'll discover biblical principles for displaying and defining the image of God in our own lives. This series is designed to equip men with practical tools to live out their faith with courage and impact. Find dates, locations and registration at www.ccbcfamily.org/bob.

KIDS MINISTRY: SUMMER REFRESHER Are you looking for a Be, Make and Reach opportunity this summer? Join our Summer Refresher Team and help so many of our dedicated Kids Ministry volunteers have a couple Sundays off. When you serve with Kids Ministry, you'll have the opportunity to build into the next generation, proclaim the gospel to eager hearts and serve our church family! Register today by visiting www.ccbcfamily.org/refresh.

BE, MAKE AND REACH WITH LIVE PRODUCTION If you have experience and interest in live production and camera operation we'd love to chat with you about volunteering with our Production Team. Get the conversation started by visiting @christchapelproduction on

Instagram, and send us a message today!

MANPOWER is a group that serves the widows and single moms of Christ Chapel one Saturday every month, and they're looking for more men to join their crew! Experience and special skills aren't needed-just a willingness to get your hands dirty and help with outdoor projects and home maintenance tasks. Email us at ManPower@ christchapelbc.org to learn more and sign up today.

MUSICAMP From catchy songs to choreography your children can have a week full of dancing. singing and discovering the fun of making music! By the end of the week, they'll even put on an entire musical. Find registration and locations at www.ccbcfamily.org/musicamp.

THERE'S A JOB FOR YOU From worship to students and creative, every role at Christ Chapel makes it possible for us to make much of Jesus! We want to invite you into a conversation about being a part of our team today. Visit www cbcfamily.org/jobs to get started.



LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT **CARD?** Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR **PHONE.** The process is quick and easy—text CCBCONLINE to 833-422-7200 to get started.