

Theme: The qualities of a faithful servant

Objective: To understand what God is looking for in a servant

Memory Verse: What responsibility do you have at home that would gladly give up? What responsibility at home would you never give up?

Read Acts 6:1-7

- Read Acts 2:44-45 and 4:32. If this communal living was taking place, why do you think the widows were being neglected?
- How would you characterize the Apostles reaction to the problem?
- We may think that this was a relatively minor issue (as in, informing the servers to make sure that all the widows were fed). Was this an appropriate reaction or an over-reaction to the issue?
- Is there a ministry in our church that is being neglected? How should we respond?
- If the elders of the church came to you and said that they want you to take over a ministry, how quickly could you come up with excuses? How would you generally respond?

Read Acts 6:8-15

- Would you characterize yourself as a “rock-the-boat” or a keep the “peace-at-any-price” type of person? Provide an example.
- What type of person do you think Stephen was like?
- How do you respond when people speak against your character? Do you fight back? Do you show love and pray for those who speak against you?
- Read Matthew 5:43-48
 - When have you responded to a conflict or an attack on your character that is in line with the passage in Matthew and Stephen’s response?

Read Romans 12:1-8

- How does this passage relate to Acts 6?
- Rate yourself (1—Fully Engaged; 2—Thinking About It; 3—Not Thinking About It)

<input type="checkbox"/> Directly involved in ministry at church	<input type="checkbox"/> Directly involved in ministry OUTSIDE of church
<input type="checkbox"/> I know my spiritual gifts	<input type="checkbox"/> I am using my spiritual gifts for ministry
<input type="checkbox"/> I know of an area of need at church	<input type="checkbox"/> I know who to talk to about serving at church

Application: Finish the sentence: I can use my gift of _____ to serve the Lord in _____.

Worship: Psalm 119:65-72. Focus on following God’s word with other people attack your charcter.

Prayer Requests

Memory Verse: 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.*