

Acts 6:1-7

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer ... And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2:42,47

The Story: Acts 6: 1-7

The church in Jerusalem grew bigger and bigger every day. People heard about Jesus and then told other people. Soon hundreds and hundreds and even thousands of people decided to follow Jesus and were baptised.

The Apostles were terribly busy praying, preaching, and teaching every day. They wanted everyone to know about Jesus!

But they were also terribly busy helping people. Christians brought money to the Apostles and the Apostles, in turn, would buy food and give it out to those who were hungry. This was especially important because some people did not have any family to take care of them. One group of people who didn't have family were the widows. A widow is a woman whose husband has died. The Apostles gave food to the widows to help them.

But there was a problem. The Apostles were so busy that sometimes they couldn't get to everyone. Some widows were missing out and going hungry. The Jews that had travelled from faraway said, "The widows in our group are not getting enough food! The other widows are getting the food first."

Many people were unhappy, so the Apostles gathered everyone together. They said, "We don't want anyone to miss out on the food. But it takes a lot of time to buy the food and pass it out to everyone. If we spend all of our time passing out food, then we won't have enough time to pray and to teach about Jesus. It would not be right to stop teaching about Jesus."

"We have an idea. We Apostles will stop distributing food and spend our time praying, preaching, and teaching. We want everyone to choose seven other men to be in charge of passing out the food. Make sure these men are faithful to God and the Spirit. Choose men who are wise because it will be their job to make sure everything is fair and that none of the widows misses out."

Everyone thought this was a really good idea, so they chose seven men: Stephen, Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nicolas. The Apostles prayed for these men and they began their work.

From then on, the widows and everyone else received their fair share of food and the Apostles taught even more people about Jesus. Now that everyone was sharing in the work, the church grew bigger and bigger every day.

What jobs do people do in your church? Are there leaders and preachers? Are there church wardens or men and women who serve the church in special ways? What ways do you help the church?

Everyone Has a Job

Instructions: Draw lines connecting the people to the tools they need for their jobs.



Bible Quiz

- 1 What is another word for women whose husbands have died?**
- 2 What did the church provide to widows every day?**
- 3 Why did the Greek-speaking Jews complain?**
- 4 How many men did the apostles ask the believers to choose?**
- 5 What kind of men did the apostles say the believers should choose?**
- 6 What was the job of the seven men?**
- 7 Name one of the seven men.**
- 8 To what did the apostles devote themselves?**
- 9 Who prayed for and laid hands on the seven men?**

Answers to last week's Bible Quiz Acts Ch 6 V 1-7

1. widows

2. food

**3. Their widows were being overlooked when food was given out each day,
Acts 6:1**

4. seven, Acts 6:3

5. good men, wise and full of the Holy Spirit; Acts 6:3

6. take care of the daily distributions

7. Stephen, Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, Nicolaus; Acts 6:5

8. prayer and preaching God's Word

9. the apostles, Acts 6:6)

Who Can Do God's Work? God gives every believer skills for doing His work

Write on each finger and thumb how you can serve God this week

You can either use the hand below
Or draw around your own hand

God doesn't want anyone to miss out on His Blessings

God wants us to tell others about Jesus

God hears our prayers

God wants us to help others

God

Who can we be kind to this week

Praying leads us closer to Jesus

Things I am Grateful for Prayer

Thank you for my family,
For hugs and kisses and special times together.

Thank you for my friends,
For laughter and chatting and sharing.

Thank you for my home,
For rest times, bath times and bedtimes.

Thank you for food, For breakfast, lunch and dinner and snacks and treats.

Thank you for playtimes, For toys and games and books.

Thank you for fun, For giggles and for silly happy times.

Thank you for making all these lovely things And for helping me to enjoy them all.

Please help me to love and share with others.

Amen.

Memory Verse: Galatians 6:10 (NIV) "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."

