

SC Church 6.14.2026

The Church Jesus Built
Holy Complications

- A. Intro: When was your life the least complicated?
- B. Big Idea: God can give wisdom and bring order to our chaos.
- C. Scripture: Acts 6:1-7 NLT – But as the believers rapidly multiplied, there were rumblings of discontent. The Greek-speaking believers complained about the Hebrew-speaking believers, saying that their widows were being discriminated against in the daily distribution of food. ² So the Twelve called a meeting of all the believers. They said, “We apostles should spend our time teaching the word of God, not running a food program. ³ And so, brothers, select seven men who are well respected and are full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will give them this responsibility. ⁴ Then we apostles can spend our time in prayer and teaching the word.” ⁵ Everyone liked this idea, and they chose the following: Stephen (a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit), Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas of Antioch (an earlier convert to the Jewish faith). ⁶ These seven were presented to the apostles, who prayed for them as they laid their hands on them. ⁷ So God’s message continued to spread. The number of believers greatly increased in Jerusalem, and many of the Jewish priests were converted, too.
- D. What do we do when the Church grows?
- a. Listen to the Concerns/Complaints
 - i. Acts 6:1 NLT – But as the believers rapidly multiplied, there were rumblings of discontent. The Greek-speaking believers complained about the Hebrew-speaking believers, saying that their widows were being discriminated against in the daily distribution of food.
 - ii. Proverbs 18:21 NLT – ²¹ The tongue can bring death or life; those who love to talk will reap the consequences.
 - b. Meet and Think thru Solutions
 - i. Acts 6:2 NLT – ² So the Twelve called a meeting of all the believers. They said, “We apostles should spend our time teaching the word of God, not running a food program.
 - c. Choose Wise Leaders
 - i. Luke 6:12-13 NLT – ¹² One day soon afterward Jesus went up on a mountain to pray, and he prayed to God all night. ¹³ At daybreak he called together all of his disciples and chose twelve of them to be apostles.
 - ii. 1 Timothy 5:22 NLT – ²² Never be in a hurry about appointing a church leader. Do not share in the sins of others. Keep yourself pure.

iii. Acts 6:3 NLT – ³ And so, brothers, select seven men who are well respected and are full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will give them this responsibility.

d. Pray & Keep Moving

- i. 1 Corinthians 1:10 NLT – ¹⁰ I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose.
- ii. Acts 6:6 NLT – ⁶ These seven were presented to the apostles, who prayed for them as they laid their hands on them.
- iii. 1 Timothy 4:14 NLT – ¹⁴ Do not neglect the spiritual gift you received through the prophecy spoken over you when the elders of the church laid their hands on you.
- iv. Numbers 27:23 NLT – ²³ Moses laid his hands on him (Joshua) and commissioned him to lead the people, just as the Lord had commanded through Moses.
- v. Acts 6:7 NLT – ⁷ So God’s message continued to spread. The number of believers greatly increased in Jerusalem, and many of the Jewish priests were converted, too.

E. Close: When Holy Complications come, how will we respond?

a. Next Steps

- i. Memorize: 1 Corinthians 1:10 NLT – ¹⁰ I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose.
- ii. Think: How can I breathe life and be part of the solution when problems arise?
- iii. Action: Diffuse drama and step into help as the Lord leads you.