



Leader's Guide

Week of May 7

Leader Check-In

Leaders,

This is a lesson we learn today that leads very easily into service opportunities. There are lots of needs in the community, and I would really suggest getting in contact with Al Hodges (ahodges@sgc.org) if you are compelled to help others after engaging with these discussion questions. Feel free to ask me as well!

The Big Idea

For the sake of unity among believers and care for believers, the church needs people to step into the “unglamorous” ministry roles, which God blesses.

Getting Started

1. What are the things that cause problems/conflict in organizations?
***Leader's Note:** Sin certainly causes problems. But not only sin! Conflict can arise any time that two people have differences of opinion or priorities. It can easily happen through the “growing pains” as organizations begin to involve more people. Both parties in any conflict can be technically and morally “right” and conflict still exists. The early Church faced such growing pains.
 2. Have you ever felt neglected (or seen someone else neglected) in your family, workplace, or church? What did you do about it? Was it the right response or would you have done something differently?
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Digging In

Spring 2017

1. Read **Acts 6:1**. What is the problem here?
***Leader's Note:** The Hellenists (Jews that are more Greek in cultural practice) are upset that they are being overlooked. There seems to be some cultural prejudice and injustice here which arose out of the leadership structure not being able to provide equal care for all.
2. Read **Acts 6:2-4**. What is the solution the twelve disciples come up with? Does it seem fair? Why/why not?
3. Read **Acts 6:5-6**. The seven “deacons” chosen in these verses all have Greek (or Hellenized) names. How is that significant?
***Leader's Note:** It was the Hellenistic widows who were being neglected. Therefore, having Hellenists in the leadership helped ensure that their demographic wouldn't be discriminated against anymore.
4. Read **Acts 6:7**. The Lord clearly blesses this decision. Why?
***Leader's Note:** Because people were being cared for! The mission was still being accomplished and the Word still preached. Perhaps most importantly of all the church kept unified!

Looking Around

1. What are you doing to care for the people in your church so that teachers of the Word can spend time preaching the Word?
2. Are there people being overlooked at Southern Gables? Who? Who might be able to reach out to them and care for them?
3. What “tables” need to be waited in the church in order to make sure overlooked people are cared for in the church?

Pray

Pray that the Lord would keep the unity of his church and compel people to do what needs to be done to care for people!