

## Transformation Card

*This page provides an overview of the message and resources for individual and group study.*

Date: May 22, 2011

### **Sermon Audio**

Full Msg. Title: **The Church's Kingdom Advancement**  
Short Ver. Title: Kingdom Advancement  
Sub-Title\*: Acts  
Text: Acts 6:1-7  
Key Words: disciples, increasing, complaint, neglect, the twelve

\* Series Title

### **Transformation Card**

Series: Acts  
Part:  
Section:  
**Title & Sub:** See *Message Outline* below

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### ***Message Outline***

#### **The Church's Kingdom Advancement**

#### **How the Early Church Dealt with a Distraction**

- I. The Disciples **Recognized** that a Legitimate **Need** was also a Potential **Distraction**
- II. The **Apostles** Put Forth a "Whole Body" **Solution** to Both Need and Distraction
- III. The Disciples **Approved** of and **Initiated** the Apostles' Proposed Solution
- IV. The Church **Implemented** the Solution Allowing Kingdom **Advancement**

### ***God's Word for Devotions***

1. Acts 6

2. Acts 7

### ***Talk About It with Your Friends and Family***

1. What was the circumstance of the church according to verse 1?
2. Who are the "Hellenistic Jews" and who are the "native Hebrews"; and what was the nature of the complaint that arose between them?
3. In the broadest terms and noting the different roles of the apostles and the disciples in general, how did the early church handle this issue?
4. How would you describe the structure of the church before and after the choosing and tasking of the seven, i.e., who had what obligation and authority?
5. What was the implied result (v.7) of the implemented solution?
6. What enduring principles can we see in this passage for church life today?

### ***Memory and Meditation Verse***

"Therefore, brethren, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

Acts 6:3-4 (NASB)

### ***Community Life***

1. Donations appreciated for Bibles for the Church in the Philippines
2. Summer Community Groups

### ***Next Week***

Focus Text: Acts 6:8-15. What is the significance of Stephen performing signs and wonders? How did some men respond to Stephen's ministry in verse 9? Describe Stephen's capabilities as noted in verse 10. From verse 10-14 what "Plan B" did Stephen's opponents implement after arguing with him failed? What's up with Stephen's appearance in verse 15? Please also read all of Acts chapters 6-7 which are closely related. The bulk of this section records Stephen's defense of the gospel. Begin to familiarize yourself with the structure and broad content of his defense noting the general flow of his logic. We will spend a few weeks understanding this important speech.