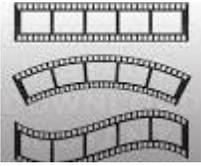


Acts 6 - Lesson 7



1. **Summary of Events:** Write down the location, specific witnesses and what happened in each scene of this chapter.

Scene	Passage	Location	Who are the witnesses?	What happened? What power was received and how were these people witnesses of Christ?
6.1	6:1-6			
6.2	6:7			
6.3	6:8-15			

How do these events relate to the overall theme of the book?

Acts 6

Now at this time while the disciples were increasing *in number*, a complaint arose on the part of the Hellenistic *Jews* against the *native* Hebrews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily serving *of food*.² So the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables."³ 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.⁴ But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."⁵ The statement found approval with the whole congregation; and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch.⁶ And these they brought before the apostles; and after praying, they laid their hands on them.

⁷ The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith.

⁸ And Stephen, full of grace and power, was performing great wonders and signs among the people.⁹ But some men from what was called the Synagogue of the Freedmen, *including* both Cyrenians and Alexandrians, and some from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and argued with Stephen.¹⁰ But they were unable to cope with the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking.¹¹ Then they secretly induced men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and *against* God."¹² And they stirred up the people, the elders and the scribes, and they came up to him and dragged him away and brought him before the Council.¹³ They put forward false witnesses who said, "This man incessantly speaks against this holy place and the Law;¹⁴ for we have heard him say that this Nazarene, Jesus, will destroy this place and alter the customs which Moses handed down to us."¹⁵ And fixing their gaze on him, all who were sitting in the Council saw his face like the face of an angel.

2. Take a moment to write out our memory verse for this week: Acts 10:42-43.

3. Highlight/mark key words and write down what you learn about them and how they continue to express the theme of Acts.

HOLY SPIRIT-

POWER-

WITNESSES-

4. What different types of ministries do we see in Acts 6?

5. What did the Apostles state as the focus their ministry?

6. Many scholars recognize Acts 6:4 as the prototype for elders in the New Testament churches. What additional information is given in Titus 1:6-9 and 1 Timothy 3:1-7 about the ministry and qualifications of elders?

7. What qualifications are stated in Acts 6:3 for the seven who would serve in the widows' ministry?

8. Many scholars recognize Acts 6:3 as the prototype for deacons in the New Testament churches. What additional information is given in 1 Timothy 3:9-13 about the ministry and qualifications of those who serve?

9. Take time now to pray for our own pastoral and service ministers. List out the names of the pastors, elders and deacons. Please pray for their character as well as their specific ministries. If you have children in the home, take time to pray for these men together.

Elders:

Deacons:

10. What did you learn in Chapter 6 about being a follower of Jesus from Stephen's example?
Answer the following questions from Acts 6:8-15.

a. After Stephen performed signs and wonders, what was Stephen doing in Acts 6:9-10?

b. What were the four false accusations made against Stephen in Acts 6:11 and 13? (He will defend each of these points in Chapter 7).

1.

2.

3.

4.

c. What was the response of those opposed to Stephen in the following verses?

Acts 6:10

Acts 6:11

Acts 6:12

Acts 6:13-14

d. What was Stephen's disposition in the midst of his trouble in Acts 6:15?

11. How can you APPLY what you learned? You can use the acronym EPICS to help us look for specific ways.

Examples to follow:

Promises to expect:

Identity reminders:

Commands to follow:

Sins to forsake