



# Serving in Unity **FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT**

DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP + EVANGELICAL CHINESE CHURCH + UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
大馬士革國際教會 + 西雅圖證道堂 + 華大長老教會

## **KiNDRED 2024 STUDY GUIDE - WEEK 2**

### **Serving in Unity | Filled With the Spirit: Acts 6:1-7**

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

Acts chapter 6 is ministry in action. The rapid, exponential growth in the number of believers poses several challenges. One of these was the linguistic and cultural diversity of the early church, in particular, the increasing rift between the Greek-speaking (Hellenistic) believers and the Hebrew-speaking (Hebraic) believers. The disciples tasked the deacons with ensuring that everyone's physical needs as well as spiritual needs were met. These deacons were chosen for their trustworthiness, sound judgment and their walk with God. They were spirit-filled. And the church grew even more. Although the early church experiences conflict, they also experienced the word of God flourishing, the Spirit of God moving and the church expanding as had never been seen before.

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## Serving in Unity | Filled With the Spirit: Acts 6:1-7

**READ:** Acts 6:1-7

**PRAYER:** *Heavenly Father, guide us as we explore how the early church dealt with conflict. Help us to recognize the blind spots that hold us back from fully becoming the effective agents of your gospel you've created us to be. Amen.*

### DISCUSSION:

1. What are the challenges this passage reveals about the growing church? What did the disciples do (and not do) to respond to the challenge? How do you see God and the Holy Spirit's guidance in solving this challenge? What was the result?
2. The seven men that were chosen were described as "full of the Spirit and wisdom" (v.3). How did the gathered believers know who was "full of the Spirit and wisdom"? Why are these important to a person that serves tables?
3. What do you see as qualifications of being a deacon/deaconess? How do the attributes of the men chosen in the passage compare with those who serve in the church today? What other characteristics are desirable in a ministry team member?
4. If you are a church leader, how would you equip people to serve? What are trustworthy resources for training and equipping? What materials should we be cautious about?
5. How important are people who are bridge builders in today's diverse environment? What is their role in the modern church? How could Kindred help with that mission?
6. How did the way the disciples addressed the complaint contribute to a healthier church going forward? What can we learn from their model of problem solving in our churches today? Where do you see your gifts being useful in meeting the challenges your church faces today? How can that help further the gospel?

**PRAYER:** *Lord Jesus thank you for the reconciling work of your Spirit which helps us experience your peace in our churches and your mighty transformative power in our lives. Amen.*



# NOTES

