

NIV MEMORY VERSE: Matthew 5:10**Acts 6-1**

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"MEETING NEEDS AND MAKING ENEMIES"
READ Acts 6:1-15**DAY 1 READ Acts 6:1-15**

1. What was significant to you in last week's lesson?
2. The early church was growing rapidly. Review Acts 2:42-47. What was the practice of the early church?

DAY 2 REVIEW Acts 6:1-4

- 3.a. What was the complaint of discrimination according to Acts 6:1?
- b. What positive effects do you think resolving this problem would have on church growth?
- c. What additional ways could we help meet the needs of widows today?
4. A meeting was called to address the problem. What . . .
 - a. . . priority was established?
 - b. . . proposal was made?
 - c. . . parameters of selection were decided upon?
- 5.a. How do you think division of responsibility helps a church to grow?
- b. What could be some of the drawbacks?

DAY 3 REVIEW Acts 6:5-7

- 6.a. Name the seven "deacons" chosen.
- b. What additional information is given about Stephen?

ACTS 6-2

DAY 3 (Continued) REVIEW Acts 6:5-7

7.a. How were these men set apart for service?
b. What Old Testament precedents for this practice are found in these Scriptures?
Numbers 8:10-11

Numbers 27:18-20

8.a. How does Acts 6:7 show this was a good plan for church growth?
b. Does it surprise you that many priests became believers? Why or why not?

DAY 4 REVIEW Acts 6:8-10

9.a. Besides serving in the church, how else did Stephen live out his faith?
b. As a Christian you are a living testimony to the grace and power of God.
Share ways you are ministering to your family, community, the church and the world.

10. Jesus had told His disciples what in these verses?
John 16:33

John 15:18-20

11.a. What did Stephen encounter and how did he deal with it?
b. What wisdom did Stephen have as seen in James 3:17?
c. Some people want to avoid talking about “religion” while others leap at the opportunity to argue their viewpoints. What do you think is the most important objective for a Christian when he encounters either circumstance?

ACTS 6-3

DAY 5 REVIEW Acts 6:11-15

12.a. Of what was Stephen falsely accused in Acts 6:11?

b. Why was Jesus also accused of that in Matthew 26:59-65?

13. Stephen was arrested and confronted by false witnesses.

a. What does God say about false witnesses in Proverbs 19:9?

b. What was the accusation of the false witnesses in Acts 6:13-14?

c. What did Jesus really say about the law in Matthew 5:17?

. . . about changing the custom of worship in John 4:23-24?

14.a. How did Stephen's face appear to the onlookers?

b. What did Paul teach in 2 Corinthians 3:18?

c. Write Psalm 34:4-5.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

ACTS 6-4

"MEETING NEEDS AND MAKING ENEMIES"
READ Acts 6:1-15

LECTURE NOTES:

HISTORY NOTES:

Monica 331-356

Augustine 354-430