



Title | How to Be Fresh & Sharp
Series | THE CHURCH THAT CHANGED THE WORLD
Text | Acts 6:1-7
By | Bob Herrey
Date | August 2, 2019

Sermon Notes

Acts 6:1 Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. **2** And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. **3** Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. **4** But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." **5** And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. **6** These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. **7** And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.
ESV

Big Idea:

Text questions during the sermon: 623-850-8809

Acts 6:4

"But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

ESV

For Reflection & Application:

Monday:

In Acts 6:1-7, the apostles chose to do what only they could do, delegating the rest. Make a list of the family relationships in which there is currently a role that only you can fill (e.g. I am a husband to my wife, a parent to my child, a son to my mother, etc.). Are you making sufficient investments in these relationships? To what extent are delegatable tasks distracting you from these relationships?

Tuesday:

Think about your workplace. What are the responsibilities of your job that only you can do? To what extent are you giving these responsibilities special priority in your schedule?

Wednesday:

Scripture tells us that God has equipped every believer with a unique set of gifts and talents to be used for the edification of the body of Christ. What are your gifts, your passions, your strengths? To what extent are you using them?

Thursday:

Think about all the people in your sphere of influence who need Christ: neighbors, coworkers, friends, family members. Right now, you may be their only real connection to the new life that Jesus offers. To what extent are you leveraging that connection by praying for them and being mindful and open to opportunities to represent the love of Christ to them?

Friday:

If we want to move in the direction of being fresh and sharp instead of tired and dull—if we want to fulfill the assignment God has given specifically to us—we must join the apostles (Acts 6:1-7) in saying “no” to some things, “it is not right that I should give up what only I can do for the sake of doing what others can do.” To what do you need to say no?

Daily Prayer:

Lord, help me today and this week to identify the unique assignments you have given me. Help me to do what only I can do, and to delegate the rest.

Amen.