

## UNSTOPPABLE: Daring to Be the Church On Mission

Lesson Twelve • Acts 6:1-7

### Overcoming Obstacles to the Mission

#### Another Attack On the Church

Satan attempts another attack on the Church that THREATENS the mission of the Church.

*Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a murmuring... Acts 6:1*

#### Overcoming Obstacles to the Mission

### 1. The Mission of the Church Is ENDANGERED by Conflict!

#### **The Conflict in the Jerusalem Church:**

A group of widows were NEGLECTED in the daily distribution of food.

*Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a murmuring against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. Acts 6:1*

#### **The Conflict Posed a Two-Sided Threat:**

- The church faced the threat of DIVISION between the Hebrews and the Hellenists.

*There arose a murmuring against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. Acts 6:1*

- The church faced the threat of DIVERSION among the twelve apostles.

*Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables." Acts 6:2*

### 2. The Mission of the Church Is ENHANCED by Teamwork!

*Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And the saying pleased the whole multitude. Acts 6:2-5*

#### **The Solution Posed by the Apostles Pleased the Church:**

- The apostles DECLARED that "serving tables" was a necessary and honorable ministry, but one better suited for other people in the church.
- The apostles DELEGATED the ministry to widows so they could devote themselves to the ministry of the Word and prayer.

### 3. The Mission of the Church Is EXPANDED by God's Grace!

#### **The Effect of the Church's Triumph:**

God's Word SPREAD in influence and God's church MULTIPLIED in numbers in the city of Jerusalem.

*And the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith. Acts 6:7*

#### **What Do We Learn from the Jerusalem Church for Our Church?**

- We see the IMPORTANCE of proper priorities in the ministry of the church.
- We see the IMPOSSIBILITY of few people doing all the ministry of the church.
- We see the BLESSING of many people serving in the ministry of the church.

#### **Looking for a Place to Serve?**

We have various places for you to serve in ministry. Fill out the Communication Card and indicate the ministry you're interested serving in and someone will contact you.