

Weekly Study Guide

The week of June 16, 2013

Daily Readings

Monday	<p>Read Acts 6:1-7. Verse 1 says that the number of disciples of Jesus was increasing. What kinds of challenges come when the size of a group or family increases?</p> <p>Prayer: God, teach us love and serve one another.</p>
Tuesday	<p>Read Acts 6:1. One particular problem was the care of widows. Most of the disciples of Jesus were still of Jewish descent, but some were culturally traditional and spoke Aramaic or Hebrew ("Hebraic Jews"). Some were culturally more progressive and spoke Greek ("Hellenistic Jews"). How do divisions like this arise? Have you experienced something like this?</p> <p>Prayer: Pour out on us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of your people.</p>
Wednesday	<p>Read Acts 6:2-4. When the apostles heard about this problem, they decided that they couldn't neglect their responsibilities in preaching and praying to meet this need, but they also realized that it needed to be met. What do you think would have gone wrong if they had reacted differently - either by ignoring the need or throwing themselves into it regardless of their present ministry?</p> <p>Prayer: Give us wisdom, Lord, in knowing how to serve you well.</p>
Thursday	<p>Read Acts 6:3-7. The passage describes two different ministries that could be called "the ministry of the word" and "the ministry of tables." in light of this passage, how do you think our own church community does in honoring and empowering both of these ministries?</p> <p>Prayer: Empower us, God, in all kinds of ministry and serving.</p>
Friday	<p>Read James 1:19-27, focusing especially on v. 27 today. Who are the vulnerable people that God wants Christians to care about today?</p> <p>Prayer: God of compassion and justice, lead us into solidarity with and for the vulnerable.</p>
Saturday	<p>Read Exodus 18:1-27. When is it tempting to do everything yourself? Why is this a problem?</p> <p>Prayer: Multiply the service of your people, O Lord.</p>



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