

“Expectations lead to resentments.”

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Church growth can often result
in church grief.

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¹Now 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. ²And 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.

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³Therefore, 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. ⁴But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” ⁵And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit,

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and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. ⁷And 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. —Acts 6:1-7 ESV

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“If you find a perfect church,
don’t join it. You’ll mess it up!”

-.006.tiff

“a complaint... murmuring...
rumblings of discontent”

-.007.tiff

Recognize the Importance
of Being Mission-Driven and
Ministry-Supported

-.008.tiff

“But you will receive power
when the Holy Spirit has
come upon you, and you will
be My witnesses in Jerusalem
and in all Judea and Samaria,
and to the end of the earth.”

—Acts 1:8 ESV

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“We strictly charged you not
to teach in this name, yet here
you have filled Jerusalem with
your teaching, and you intend
to bring this Man’s blood
upon us.” —Acts 5:28 ESV

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Mission-Driven and Ministry-Supported
Quantity vs. Quality
(Acts 6:1)

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“Because of our mission,
the church exists for people who
are not here yet.”

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Mission-Driven and Ministry-Supported
Our Group vs. Their Group
 (Acts 6:1)

-.013.tiff

Mission-Driven and Ministry-Supported
Evangelism vs. Edification
 (Acts 6:2)

-.014.tiff

The New Testament knows nothing
 of decisions, only disciples.
 (Acts 6:1)

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Organize Gifted People to Support
 the Mission by Serving in the Ministry

-.016.tiff

“One hundred religious persons
 knit into a unity by careful
 organization do not constitute a
 church any more than eleven
 dead men in uniform make a
 football team. The first requisite
 is life always.” —A.W. Tozer

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Good men. Godly men. Gifted men.
 (Acts 6:3)

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Ministry is the responsibility
for all of God's people, not just
the 'professionals.'

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¹¹And He gave the apostles,
the prophets, the evangelists,
the shepherds and teachers,
¹²to equip the saints for the
work of ministry, for building
up the body of Christ.

—Ephesians 4:11-12 ESV

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Study to shew thyself
approved unto God,
a workman that needeth
not to be ashamed, rightly
dividing the word of truth.

—2 Timothy 2:15 KJV

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Emphasize the Importance of Unity
and Cooperation Through Shared
Mission and Ministry (Acts 6:6-7)

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