



Gateway To Life Bible Studies

"And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified." (Acts 20:32)

LESSON 3

Please read ACTS 6

1. What faction in the church started discord against the Hebrew Christians? 6:1
2. What were the seven appointed men to do? 6:3
3. What were the qualifications for a deacon? 6:3
4. What was the ministry of the apostles? 6:4
5. Who were the first two deacons named? 6:5
6. Who became the first martyr of the church? Read Acts 7:57-59
7. Who became the first lay evangelist of the church? See Acts 8:5
8. Read 1 Timothy 3:8-12. What strikes you as significant about the qualifications of a Deacon?
9. Who were among the converts to the church? Acts 6:7
10. What kind of reputation did Stephen have? 6:8

11. What was there about Stephen's work that the people could not get around? 6:10
12. What had Jesus promised to those who should be yielded to His Spirit? Luke 21:15
13. What did the men who were so zealous for the law of do? Acts 6:12
14. Bribed witnesses also perverted the statements of what man? Matthew 26:59-61
15. What happened while they were accusing Stephen of blaspheming Moses? Acts 6:15

The French existential philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre described the destructive effects of becoming the object of people's stares. In polite society, there is only so long we can maintain eye contact with someone before making him or her very uncomfortable. When we see someone walking down the street and our eyes. People stare at paintings in art museums or at animals in zoos, but if we stare too long at a human being, we are likely to get a hostile reaction because, Sartre said, staring at others reduces them to the status of objects. Stephen had become the object of hostile stares.

16. Of what should this have reminded them? Exodus 34:29

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- #1. As you read through Acts 6, please note the things that were happening within the lives of believers that, in your opinion, were building up and maturing the group of believers in this time of history. The first one is given as an example:

1.	Increasing numbers placed demands on care for one another	6:1
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

#2. As you read through Acts 6, please note the things that were happening outside, in and to the lives of unbelievers that, in your opinion, were contributing to the expansion of the church. The first one is given as an example:

1.	The word of God kept spreading	6:7
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

#3. Share with your group one area of personal growth that you see in Question #1 that you long to see expressed better in your life.

#4. Based upon the entire history recorded in Acts 6, what are some of the essential elements that contribute to the expansion of the Church?

#5. Please take time to pray for one another, for both personal aspirations as noted in #3 and for our Church that the elements you noted in #4 may be realized by God's grace and power.

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