

# sermon notes

Pastor Tony Caffey, VBVF | No Other Name

April 6, 2025 | "Working Together for Christ" | Acts 6:1–15

## EXPOSITION:

- 1) The power of \_\_\_\_\_ for advancing Christ's mission (6:1–7)
- 2) The reality of \_\_\_\_\_ when advancing Christ's mission (6:8–15)

## APPLICATION:

*Five characteristics of someone faithfully working for Christ:*

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ – Willing to meet a need
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ – Demonstrating spiritual fruit
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ – Exhibiting trustworthiness and a growing character
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_ – Displaying commitment and stick-to-itiveness
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_ – Working in togetherness as part of a team

## Questions for further application of God's Word:

### GO DEEPER

Read Acts 6:1–7. What was the crisis that necessitated the delegation of duties? How could this matter have been handled poorly? How was it handled positively? What were the positive results of what happened?

What characteristics were found in these seven chosen men? What does it mean to be "full of the Spirit and of wisdom?" Is it necessary to have these characteristics to serve Christ in the church? What about leaders in the church?

Read Acts 6:8–15. How is Stephen described in verse 8? Why were his teachings so antagonistic to Hellenistic Jews? Did Stephen do something wrong in this section of Scripture? Should he have been more reserved in his actions or his speech?

### GET PERSONAL

Put yourself in Stephen's shoes for a second. Would you have complained and bellyached about the way you've been treated despite your faithfulness to God? Here's the more difficult question that we need to ask each other, "Do you trust God enough to faithfully obey him, even when things don't turn out great for you?"

In a world where competing forces are vying for our time and our attention, why is it crucial that we set aside time and energy to work for Christ? List some of the competing forces (both good and bad!) that are vying for your time and attention. In what ways are you currently working for Christ? Has it been a burden or a joy to work for him?

### PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Of the "Five characteristics of someone faithfully working for Christ" listed above, is there one that you would consider a strength in your life? Is there one which you lack? Share your strengths and weaknesses with someone else and pray through them.

### ADVANCED QUESTION

Pastor Tony described the seven men chosen in Acts 6 as precursors to deacons in the church. Do you agree or disagree with this statement? What evidence supports this? Is the word "deacon" ever used in Acts 6? Read 1 Timothy 3:8–13 and explore the similarities and differences between these two passages. For help with this matter and others involving deacons, interact with the following *Grace to You* article entitled, "Answering the Key Questions About Deacons": <https://www.gty.org/library/articles/451020/answering-key-questions-about-deacons->