



DIGGING DEEPER

Rise Up & Walk

May 10th, 2026

LEAN IN

Think about a time when growth (in your life, family, work, or church) created unexpected tension or challenges.

- What surfaced in that moment?
- How did you respond?

LOOK UP (OIA Practice — Observation, Interpretation, Application)

Read Acts 6:1–7 together

OBSERVATION — What does the text say?

- What problem arises in verse 1? Who is affected?
- How do the apostles respond to the complaint?
- What qualifications are given for the seven chosen leaders?
- What stands out about the names listed in verse 5?
- What role does prayer play throughout this passage?
- What is the result of this decision in verse 7?

Additional Questions:

- What contrasts do you see between “complaint” and “unity” in this passage?
- What repeated themes or priorities do you notice (e.g., prayer, the Word, service)?

INTERPRETATION — What does the passage mean?

- Why is this conflict significant for a growing, Spirit-filled church?

- What does this passage teach us about how the Holy Spirit works, not just in power, but in organization and unity?
- Why do you think spiritual qualifications are required for a practical task like food distribution?
- What does the apostles' response reveal about calling and priorities?

What do you learn about God?

- God cares about both spiritual and practical needs.
- God values unity across cultural and social lines.
- God empowers His people with wisdom and the Spirit for every kind of work.

What do you learn about humanity?

- Even healthy, growing communities experience tension and misunderstanding.
- We tend to overlook or unintentionally neglect certain groups.
- We need clarity of calling and shared responsibility to function well.

Additional Questions:

- **How does this passage challenge the idea that some roles are “more spiritual” than others?**
- **What does this teach us about addressing conflict in a gospel-centered way?**

APPLICATION — What’s my response?

- Where might you be trying to do everything instead of focusing on what God has actually called you to?
- Are there areas where you’ve seen or experienced disunity or misunderstanding? How can you move toward unity?
- In what ways can you live more “open-handed” with your time, energy, or resources?
- How can you serve in a way that reflects being “full of the Spirit and wisdom”?

Additional Reflection Questions:

- **What would it look like for you to “go all in” in this season of your life?**
- **Are there people in your life who feel overlooked or unseen? How can you intentionally care for them this week?**

You may also reflect on:

- *Philippians 2:3–4* — “Do nothing out of selfish ambition...”
- *1 Peter 4:10* — “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others...”

Scripture

- Acts 6:1–7
- Philippians 2:3–4
- 1 Peter 4:10

Prayer Guide

Spend time praying together through these prompts:

- **Unity:** Ask God to form deeper, Spirit-filled unity in your group and church.
- **Wisdom:** Pray for clarity in calling—knowing what to say yes to and what to release.
- **Open-handed living:** Ask God to help you surrender your time, resources, and control.
- **The overlooked:** Pray for those who feel unseen, neglected, or marginalized.
- **Empowerment:** Invite the Holy Spirit to fill each person with wisdom, faith, and boldness to serve.

You can close by praying:

“Jesus, thank You for being the ultimate example of open-handed love. You gave Yourself fully for us. Shape us into a people who reflect Your heart by living unified, generous, and Spirit-led. Help us to go all in, holding nothing back. Use our lives so that the good news would spread and Your name would be known. Amen.”

PRACTICE (STEP OUT)

1. Serve Intentionally

Identify one practical need this week (in your church, neighborhood, or workplace) and meet it. Choose to serve in a quiet, faithful way—even if it goes unseen.

2. Bridge a Gap

Reach out to someone who is different from you (background, perspective, culture). Have a conversation, listen well, and move toward understanding and unity.

3. Clarify Your Calling

Take 15–20 minutes this week to pray and reflect:

- What has God specifically entrusted to you in this season?
- What might you need to say “no” to so you can say a better “yes”?