

“Addition, Multiplication, and Division” – Acts 6:1-7

INTRODUCTION: The early Church was growing – **5:42**

- As the Church grows ... so does the needs & problems.
- **DEACONS** = ‘*diakonos*’ = “*servants*” – **John 12:26**

6:1 – “*added*” – **2:41, 2:47, 5:14** ... “*multiplied*” – **6:1, 6:7**

- This was Satan’s 3rd attempt to destroy the Church.
- “*murmuring*” – **Acts 6:1** – KJV ... **John 7:12** – KJV
- **2 GROUPS** in early Church ... Palestinian Jews & Greek Jews.
- The early Church took care of widows – **Acts 4:34-35**
- There are conflicts in the Church in the 21st Century.

6:2 – The 1st Church Business Meeting!

- They could have handled it several different ways.

6:3 – They voted on it ... the **RESULT, 6:5a**

- Their ministry – **6:2** ... The Pastor’s ministry – **6:4**
- They decided to **DELEGATE** the ministry.
- It’s a **SIN** not to use gifted people in the Church.
- Moses over-extended himself – **Exodus 18:18**
- The primary responsibility of the Pastor – **6:2, 6:4**
- “*Prayer*” and the “*Word of God*” are important and take time.

6:5 – They approved because they trusted the 12 Disciples.

- There’s a “*split*”, when people try to get a following.
- Conflict results when everybody wants their way – **James 4:1**

6:6 – God’s will is done within the Church body, when God’s people, do God’s work, God’s way.

6:7 – Satan wanted to “*divide*”, but they “*multiplied*”.

- The solution pleased the whole Church – **6:5**

CONCLUSION:

- Don’t let Satan use you to divide the Church.
- Gifted people are to be used to **BE** a blessing, and to **RECEIVE** a blessing.