

The Church at its Best

June 4, 2023 | Acts 6:1-7 | Pastor Mike Foster

The church is at its best when it....

· Solves problems and resolves conflicts

· Cares well for the most vulnerable

· Equips and empowers leaders

· Grows and multiplies

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you most from the message?
2. Have you ever seen the church "at its worst" in a way that was discouraging or disillusioning for you? Explain.
3. What are some ways you have seen the church "at its best"? How has seeing the church function in this way encouraged your faith in the Lord?
4. Read Psalm 68:1-6 and Psalm 146:6-9, along with James 1:27. What do you see about God's heart for the needy, including widows?
5. In what ways are you seeing and caring for the most vulnerable around you, and especially in the body of Christ? In what ways might you grow in this?
6. In your opinion, why is delegation so difficult?
7. What are some of the dangers of failing to delegate responsibilities and empowering leaders around you? In the church? In other settings of life?
8. Is there someone you can bring alongside of you as you serve the Lord in ministry, in order that they might be equipped and empowered to fulfill ministry and eventually lead others? What might this look like?
9. Spend some time reading 1 Corinthians 12. What does this passage teach about ministry in the body of Christ? Is there such a thing as a member of the body who is not a minister?
10. Spend some time praying for our church and ministries to grow and multiply like the early church.

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

Read Psalm 68:1-6, Psalm 146:6-9, 1 Timothy 3:1-13, 1 Timothy 5:1-22, James 1:27

Read "The Spirit and the Worker" - <https://bit.ly/spiritandworker>

Read "Spiritual Leadership" - <https://bit.ly/spiritualleadershipcru>

Read about leadership principles from Acts 6

- <https://bit.ly/acts6leader>

Read about the biblical role of "deacons"

- <https://bit.ly/responsibilitiesofdeacons>

Read about the biblical role of "elders"

- <https://bit.ly/eldersrole>

Read *Gospel Eldership* by Robert Thune

