

Small Group Study Guide- After the Potluck 6 (Acts 6:1-7)

Opening Thought: In your own words define what it means to be a healthy church. Discuss the differences shared by the group and how we can create space for each definition to exist in our body.

1. Healthy Church: devotion and duty. (Acts 6:1-4)

- Read the passage and then discuss the powerful leadership model: the apostles called a meeting and cast vision for the church. Why was and/or is this so effective?
- Discuss the concept of the leaders being devoted to the word of God and prayer. (1 Timothy 4:1-2) As we look at the modern church, have we maintained this model or lost it? How can we guard the healthy church model?
- Discuss the concept of the believers being committed to the duty of ministry. (Ephesians 4:11-12) Does the modern church make disciples that are committed to the duty of ministry? How has consumer Christianity stifled a committed culture of disciples owning the gospel mission?

2. Healthy Church: unity, obedience, increase and multiplication. (Acts 6:5-7)

- How valuable is unity within the body of Christ? How can we gain and maintain biblical unity? (John 17:20-24)
- What unified the church in Acts 6?
- What are the two types of obedience revealed in Acts 6? How might we see “obedience in faith” as progressive steps in our sanctification, that being obedience “in the faith” and obedience “to the faith”? (1 Peter 1:22-23)
- What does it mean that the Word of God increased? What should this look like today? How can we connect the increase of the Word to the devotion of the Apostles?
- The disciples multiplied greatly. How can we see a great multiplication of disciples in our church today? What can we glean from the early church to help fulfill Matthew 28:19-20? (Acts 2:38-39)

Close: Take some time to pray for health in the church.