



“Being the Church of Jesus”
Acts 6:1-15 ♦ Pastor Jim Lennon
September 22, 2024

Introduction – *As the new church began to grow, there was a need to organize and delegate various ministries in the church.*

I. How the Church Grew.

- A. The church grew by making disciples of Jesus.

- B. What is a disciple of Jesus?
 - 1. Belief
 - 2. Baptized
 - 3. Surrendered
 - 4. Learning
 - 5. Serving

- C. Disciples of Jesus are made through the ministry of God’s Word.

- D. To be Jesus’ disciple, a person must first hear, understand, and respond in faith to the Gospel.

II. What Hinders the Growth of the Church?

- A. The spiritual forces of darkness can hinder church growth.
 - 1. Persecution. (Acts 4)
 - 2. Moral corruption. (Acts 5)
 - 3. Internal strife. (Acts 6)

- B. Divisions are laid aside when disciples are willing to serve one another.

III. The Mark of a Growing Church.

- A. The mark of a growing church is a growing Christian.
 - 1. A growing Christian will love the Lord and love the Word of God.
 - 2. Growing Christians grow churches.

- B. Luke singles Stephen out as an example of a true disciple and growing Christian.

- C. How do you know if you are a growing disciple of Jesus? (See previous)
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.

Conclusion.