

Section 1

In Acts 6 we can break down the chapter into three sections

- 1) The **problem** - Greek Jews especially the widows are not being looked after
- 2) A solution is found and **actions** are taken
- 3) There are both good and bad **consequences** to the solution

There is a central theme however and the central theme pertains very much to what is happening today.

Section 2

The Word of Truth is truly dividing

What does **dividing** mean, and, is there division happening in Acts 6? Discuss.....3718. ὀρθοτομέω orthotoméō; contracted orthotomō, fut. orthotomēsō, from orthós (G3717), right and témnō (n.f., see below), to cut or divide. To handle correctly, skillfully; to correctly teach the word of truth (2 Tim. 2:15; Sept.: Prov. 3:6; 11:5).

Section 3

The difference between believers and disciples... why it applies to Acts 6, and why it applies to us today!

Close

We.. Us... Together... Unity... Can we 'one another' ?

A believer is someone who accepts a set of beliefs, often religious, while a disciple is a follower who not only believes but also actively learns from and submits to a teacher or leader.

In the context of Christianity, a disciple is someone who follows Jesus' teachings and strives to live according to them, while a believer may or may not actively engage in that process of discipleship

Greg Laurie wrote these hard-hitting words in his book 'Start! To Follow: How to be a Successful Follower of Jesus'. He went on to identify nine differences between a believer and a disciple:

- The believer looks to the cross. The disciple takes up his cross
- The believer obeys God when it's convenient. A disciple obeys regardless of the outcome
- A believer decides once. A disciple decides daily
- Believers focus on eternal life (getting to heaven). Disciples focus on eternal rewards (bringing heaven)
- A believer prays when things get tough. A disciple prays regardless of the circumstances
- A believer sees the church as a service to attend. A disciple sees himself as the church
- A believer lives a saved life. A disciple lives a called life
- A believer makes heaven. A disciple makes history
- A believer receives Jesus Christ. A disciple represents Jesus Christ



Problem

1 Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution.

2 Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables."

3 Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business;

4 but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch,

6 whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them.

7 Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people.

9 Then there arose some from what is called the Synagogue of the Freedmen (Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and those from Cilicia and Asia), disputing with Stephen.

10 And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke.

11 Then they secretly induced men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God."

12 And they stirred up the people, the elders, and the scribes; and they came upon him, seized him, and brought him to the council.

13 They also set up false witnesses who said, "This man does not cease to speak blasphemous words against this holy place and the law;

14 for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs which Moses delivered to us."

15 And all who sat in the council, looking steadfastly at him, saw his face as the face of an angel.

Action

Good

Consequences

We are in the age of visual literacy.

The **average adult** who spends **fifty hours a year in a pew** will also spend **two thousand hours at home watching T.V.** (Or with some other screen content to keep us company)



A generation ago it was estimated that by the end of high school, the average American would have **invested more hours in watching television (fifteen thousand hours), than in attending class, (twelve thousand hours....**

Children will spend as much time watching a digital screen as their parents will have spent at work...

And the kids will have watched over 350 000 commercials by the time they graduate from high school

The time adults spend looking at digital images and screens is substantial, with global averages exceeding six hours per day.

Here are some key statistics regarding adult screen time (for internet-connected devices, which includes all digital images):

- **Global Average Daily Screen Time:** The average person worldwide spends approximately **6 hours and 38 minutes** per day looking at screens connected to the internet.
 - This figure is often higher in the US, with averages reported around **7 hours and 4 minutes** per day.
- **Waking Hours:** This daily screen time equates to about **40-42% of the average person's waking hours** (assuming 8 hours of sleep).
- **Device Breakdown (Global Averages):**
 - **Mobile Devices:** Approximately **3 hours and 46 minutes** per day.
 - **Computers/Desktops/Laptops:** Approximately **2 hours and 52 minutes** per day.
- **Lifetime Totals (Example: UK/US):**

- Some surveys suggest the average British adult will spend the equivalent of about **36 consecutive years** of their life looking at screens.
- A similar US survey suggests the average American adult spends the equivalent of around **44 years** of their life on screens.
- **Age and Screen Time:** Younger adults typically have the highest screen time.
 - Users aged **16-24** often average over **7 hours** per day.
 - Users aged **65+** tend to have the lowest average, often around **4 hours** per day.
- **High Screen Time Countries:** Some countries, particularly in South America, Africa, and Southeast Asia, report much higher daily averages:
 - **South Africa:** Around **9 hours and 24 minutes** per day.
 - **Brazil:** Around **9 hours and 13 minutes** per day.

These figures cover all screen-based activities, including work, social media, watching videos, gaming, and general browsing, all of which involve looking at digital images.

