

/IM-PAKT/

THE WIN

The group member acknowledges that a life that impacts for Christ involves leading others. Group members will demonstrate understanding of this truth by sharing with other group members how they could lead in the body of Christ.

3-5
minutes

SERMON RECAP: WHAT DID THE TEXT MEAN? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

READ THIS ALOUD:

In the message this week we learned that leading others is part of making an impact for Christ. How we lead others will differ. Some will be called to dedicate their life to further God's mission in the world. Others will be led to step out on a weekly basis and lead small groups of children, teens, or adults. Still others will be led in other facets of Kingdom work.

A couple of key points from the message:

When the favor of God is on a church, there are some specific evidences:

- 1) Growth
- 2) Ministry
- 3) Leaders
- 4) Greater Influence

3-5
minutes

WARM UP

ASK THIS:

When you hear the words 'church' and 'leadership' what images come to mind?

Who was the greatest leader you have ever been around? What type of attributes did they have? In your opinion, why were so great at leading?

35
minutes

THE TEXT: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ME?

Introduction:

Have someone in the group read the text aloud:
Acts 6:1-7

DISCUSS and CHALLENGE:

1. In verses 2-3 the disciples introduce the reader to a different type of church leadership than had been previously demonstrated in the life of the church.
 - a. How would you describe the differences in the two types of leadership revealed in the text?

2. As you read the text would you say that one type of leadership is more important than the other?
 - a. Examine v.1.
 - i. Had the disciples not addressed the situation revealed in v.1 would you say the health of the church would have increased or decreased? Why?

3. The church requires different types of leadership to serve different functions in the church. Without leadership the church could not accomplish her mission.
 - a. Share an example of how you have witnessed or experienced this truth in your life.

4. What do you think moved the disciples to action in v.2?
 - a. In your experience what motives have you witnessed in people as they have considered leadership? Describe your experience.
 - a. Has there been a season in your life where you have led someone or something? If so, what was your motive?

5. Many will agree that preaching God's Word and handling financial matters are both necessary and important matters that must be dealt with in the church. Each matter requires people with different leadership skills. In 1 Corinthians 12:12 Paul writes "For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ."
 - a. How might someone struggling to find a place to serve in the church be encouraged by Paul's words?
 - b. Based on what you have learned from Acts 6:1-7 are those serving as ushers considered leaders? What about those who rock babies in the nursery? Those who greet at the doors or work in the parking lot on Sundays? How about those who make the coffee?
 - c. If someone were to ask you why those positions listed above were leadership positions, how would you respond? Explain.

ASK THIS:

- If you are not already leading in some facet of the church, how might you step up and involve yourself?
- a. What excites you? What frightens you? How can your life group support you?

10
minutes

DIGGING DEEPER

ASK THIS:

1. One concern I have with involving myself in meeting the needs of others is _____.
2. If you had to give a definition of leadership what would it be?

-
3. "A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way." –John Maxwell
 - a. What jumps out to you in this quote? What challenges you?

CLOSING THOUGHT

While not every Christ-follower is called to be in full-time ministry, every Christ-follower is called to be involved in meeting the needs for the common good of the Church. There are a myriad of things to be done for the church to thrive: preaching the Word, teaching and forming the faithful, administrative tasks, strategic thinking, vision casting for a preferred future, mentoring, serving the under-resource and overwhelmed, training those who serve, and the list could go on. Bottom line is it takes a variety of leadership types to get the work of the church to move forward and God has gifted every Christ-follower with the tools needed to accomplish this task, whether it be through full-time vocational ministry or a weekly position in a local church.