

## Death by Division

Dr. Jeff Bucknam | Acts 6:1–7

1. Our opinions are plentiful on just about every topic. We each have our personal viewpoint and our situations shape our perceptions of various topics. Is it ok that we disagree on some things? How should we handle disagreements when they surface? How can a growth group, or a church campus, work to avoid sharp disagreements over topics that are not essential doctrine on which we must agree?

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2. The church we read about in Acts faced many of the same things we need to work through as a church today. What kinds of things have we read about in Acts, are the same or similar to things we see evidenced in our church family?

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3. What is the mission of our church? Who is responsible for making sure that mission remains our focus? What kinds of things should Pastors, Elders, and staff do to ensure that we are always staying focused on the mission? What kinds of things can a committed person in our church family do to ensure the mission is being accomplished?

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4. What are the primary functions of any church, that must never stop? (Acts 6:2, 4) Who was primarily responsible for making sure those activities continued in Acts? When other important needs in the church were not being met, what criteria were used by the Apostles to select the Deacons? Take a minute to consider your own life...in what ways would your life match those criteria, or maybe need to grow? Once the Deacons were chosen and commissioned, what were the outcomes we see for the church (Acts 6:7)?

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5. What are the ways you see this passage as important for our church right now? And what do you think the significance of this is for you personally?

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Additional passages referenced: Romans 10:14, 2 Timothy 3:16–17, Titus 1:5