

THE CHURCH'S NEED FOR SERVANTS

Acts 6:1-7

I. **The Problem in the Church (1).**

Deuteronomy 24:19: When you reap your harvest in your field, and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it; it shall be for the stranger, the fatherless, and **the widow**, that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands.

1 Timothy 5:3-4: **Honor widows** who are really widows. But if any widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show piety at home and to repay their parents; for this is good and acceptable before God.

II. **The Solution in the Church (2-4).**

Acts 2:41-42: Then those who gladly **received his word** were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added *to them*. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and **in prayers**.

Acts 4:4: However, many of those **who heard the word** believed; and the number of the men came to be about five thousand.

Philippians 1:3-4: I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, **always in every prayer of mine** making request for you all with joy.

2 Timothy 2:15: Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth**.

1 Timothy 3:8ff

III. **The Response of the Church (5-6).**

Numbers 8:10: So you shall bring the Levites before the Lord, and the children of Israel shall **lay their hands** on the Levites.

Acts 13:3: Then, having fasted and prayed, and **laid hands on them**, they sent *them* away.

1 Timothy 4:14: Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with **the laying on of the hands of the eldership**.

IV. **The Result in the Church (7).**

Acts 12:23-25: Then immediately an angel of the Lord struck him, because he did not give glory to God. And he was eaten by worms and died. **But the word of God grew and multiplied**.

Acts 13:48-49: Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and **glorified the word of the Lord**. And as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed. And **the word of the Lord was being spread** throughout all the region.