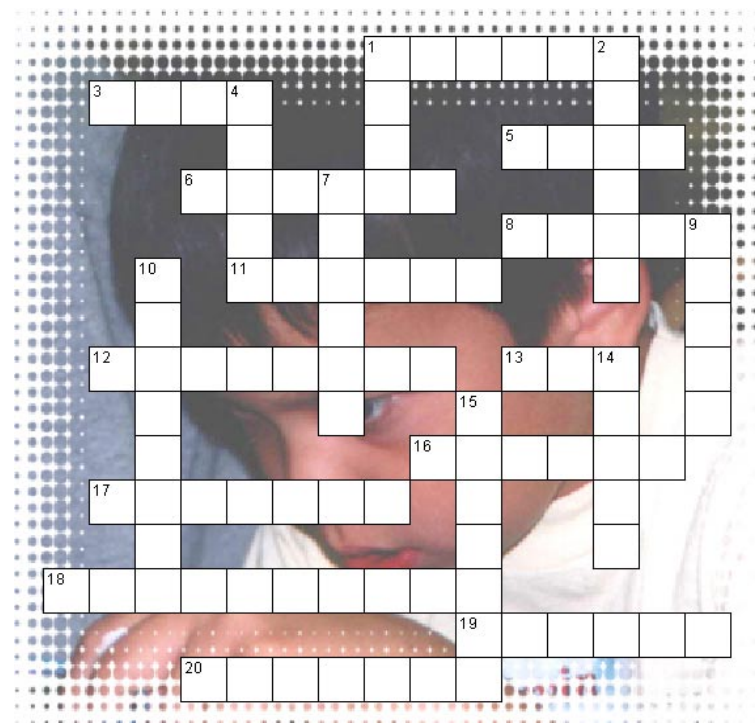


CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

Down

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. ...filled with the Holy Spirit and ____. | 1. The serving ones who were chosen were to be “____-attested”. |
| 3. ...filled with the ____ Spirit... | 2. They began to ____ against the Hebrew believers. |
| 5. The ____ cares very much for His saints... | 4. There were ____ and old... |
| 6. ...joyfully gave to ____ those needs. | 7. There were many different kinds of ____. |
| 8. ...joyfully gave to supply those ____. | 9. ____ Serving Brothers |
| 11. Because of the ____ of the church... | 10. Seven Serving ____ |
| 12. ____ gave to supply those needs. | 14. ...overlooked in the ____ dispensing. |
| 13. There were young and ____ | 15. ...very ____, honest and trusted. |
| 16. The Holy ____ | |
| 17. Seven ____ Brothers | |
| 18. ...overlooked in the daily ____. | |
| 19. They began to murmur against the ____ believers. | |
| 20. ____ understanding and kind. | |

Parent's Initials:



God's Calling in the New Testament

- Lesson Twelve -

In Acts –

The Appointment of the Seven Serving Ones

I. Overview.

In order to avoid serious problems in the church caused by the needs of the saints not being met, there need to be some serving ones to help. These serving ones must be ones who have a good testimony among the believers and be those who walk closely with the Lord. They must be contacting Him continuously.



In the church there were needs among the saints.

The serving ones must have much wisdom and be able to work together with others in coordination. There was much need for such serving ones, since not too long after the Day of Pentecost, the beginning of the church, there were over five thousand believers. The apostles were speaking the Word of the Lord in a bold way and many were being added to the church day by day. Among so many new disciples there were many needs. The serving ones helped the apostles take care of the needy ones among the saints. The Lord needs such faithful serving ones in the church.

II. Memory Verse.

“Brothers, look for seven well-attested men from among you, full of the Holy Spirit and of wisdom whom we will appoint over this need.”

(Acts 6:3)

III. Lesson.

As the new church was growing in Jerusalem there were many different kinds of people. There were young and old, rich and poor. There were many who had needs and there were others who joyfully gave what they had to supply those needs.



The serving ones assisted with the fair distribution of food.

Because the growth of the church was so fast, it was difficult for all the needs of the saints to be met. It became clear that some of the widows among the Greek saints were being overlooked in the daily dispensing of food or money. They began to murmur against the Hebrew believers. They felt that they were being treated unfairly.

Seven Serving Brothers

When the apostles heard about the problem of the uneven distribution, they called together the brothers and told them to choose seven brothers from among themselves to meet the need. The apostles needed to pay attention to the ministry of the Word, so they needed other faithful brothers to take care of this need.

The serving ones who were to be chosen were to be “well-attested”, that is, very upright, honest and trusted. They were also to be ones who were filled with the Holy Spirit and wisdom. This means that they should be brothers who had a consistent walk with the Lord and had learned of the Lord’s ways. They should be patient, understanding and kind. It is also important that there were to be seven brothers, not just one. This is an important principle in the service of the church – that we should serve with others and not just by ourselves.

The Lord Has Called Us to Serve Him in the Church

As those who have been called by the Lord, we will all eventually serve Him in the church. This is actually a great honor. The Lord cares very much for His saints and is very concerned that all the needs of the saints are met. He also wants all the saints to feel like they are being cared for in the best way – fairly and honestly.

As we grow up, we will learn to give ourselves to the Lord to serve Him. There are many ways to serve Him in the church. Every time we take of another saint in some way, we are actually taking care of the Lord.

--- Questions for Discussion ---

1. Why was there the need of serving ones?

2. Why was it important that there were seven brothers and not just one?

3. What kind of brothers were needed for the service?

4. What is one way we can serve the Lord?

