# The Leading of the Spirit 6. Inspiration to change the leadership structure Acts 6:1-7

# In any group growth can be a problem

## It’s a good problem to have!

## In handling problems we find character and inspiration

### The ethos of the church and the inspiration of the Spirit

### The Holy Spirit helps us to rectify problems

# The Spirit uses Grace

## Grace to minister together

### All ministries (forms of service) are equally valid

## Grace to be gracious

### How gracious would you be?

## Grace demands integrity

### All of the people chosen had to be full of the Spirit AND wisdom

# Consequences of Grace

## The word of God spread

### The numbers coming to faith increased rapidly

### A large number of priests became obedient to the faith

# God works through difficult times

## The Holy Spirit works through grace but we may not like the changes

# Homegroup/Private study questions

# Groups

## When does a group get ‘too big’ for you?

### What are the reasons they become too big? What are the signs of a group getting too big? How do you prevent it becoming bigger? What do you when a group is too big?

## If you are on the outside of a group and they don’t let you in how do you react?

# Growth

## How far do you agree that the ethos and character of a church are tested in growth?

### Explain your reasoning

### When else are the ethos and character of a church tested?

# Grace and Wisdom

## If grace is ‘undeserved favour’ why is it needed in relationships, in churches and in groups?

### To what extent and where does merit alone fail?

## How far do you agree that grace ‘demands’ integrity if people want to be used by God?

### Explain your answer

## Why do you think the apostles called for wisdom rather than administration as a minimum requirement for the role?

# How gracious do you need to be?

## To accept help?

## To admit inadequacies and shortcomings?

## To accept the suggestions of a newcomer?

## To listen to someone undermine your contribution?

## To accept someone else’s plan to fix things?

## To give your support to someone fixing your errors?

# Church and grace

## How can we be gracious to people determined to do us harm?

## To what extent should the church model graciousness and how can we do that here?

# Church working together

## How important is it that all contributions from people are equally valued?

### How can this be achieved when we emphasise the ministry of the word above helping the poor?