

Discussion & Reflection Questions



Date: 1/16/22

Sermon: "Growing Beyond Ourselves," Acts 6:1-15

Main Point: Just as the Early Church did, we must intentionally seek to grow beyond ourselves by engaging the church as an organism, learning to pray in the Spirit, and bringing light into the darkness.

Discussion/Reflection Questions:

Sunday:

Reflect on the fact that God is calling us as a church to grow beyond ourselves. Let this be your daily prayer: "Lord, fill me today with your Holy Spirit, and use me to shine your light into every dark corner that I may encounter."

Monday:

Read Acts 1:8 and Acts 8:1. What connection do you see between these two verses? What does this teach you about God and the way he works?

Tuesday:

Read Acts 6:1-7. Why did the Early Church need to grow as an *organization*? What priorities did they maintain that helped them to function as an *organism* instead? What are ways that we at GVBC can better function as an organism as we do God's work?

Wednesday:

Read Acts 6:8-10. What stands out to you about the way that Stephen is described in these verses? If the same Holy Spirit that empowered Stephen continues to be present with us today, how can that make a difference in the way we pray on a daily basis?

Thursday:

Read Acts 6:11-15. What are the accusations against Stephen, and what do you see as the deeper significance of Stephen's appearance in v. 15? Based on Pastor James' final point, what does it mean that we as believers are to "light not only the light, but the darkness"?

Friday:

Spend quality time with the Lord in prayer. Reflect on the ways that we as a church need to work on growing beyond ourselves. Pray earnestly for GVBC and for our continued spiritual growth as a church.