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**Problem Solved—By YOU!**

***Acts 6:1-7***

# Introduction

### Internal issues can hinder our growth.

### What should we do as a church to accommodate growth?

### How should we solve the growth issues we face?

# I. [The apostles solved a food problem caused growth by designating lay leaders (6:1-7).]

## The blessing of God on the Jerusalem church caused it to grow (1a).

## But the growing church had a food distribution problem (1b).

### Money was given to take care of those in need (4:34-35).

### However, Hebrew-speaking widows got more food than Greek-speaking widows.

## The apostles solved the growth problem by appointing lay leaders (2-7).

### The apostles proposed a plan to choose lay leaders (2-4).

#### The apostles from Galilee called a public meeting of the locals (2a).

#### They shared their priority of teaching over administration (2b).

#### They asked the locals to choose seven respected administrators (3a).

#### They committed in advance to appoint those selected (3b).

#### The reaffirmed their commitment to teaching and prayer (4).

### The church followed the plan (5-6).

#### Everyone liked the idea (5a).

#### They chose seven Greek-speakers to lead the food issues (5b).

#### The apostles appointed “The Seven” to the task (6).

### God blessed the result (7).

#### God’s word continued to spread (7a).

#### The Jerusalem church grew instead of splitting (7b).

#### Many Jewish priests trusted Christ (7c).

# II. The solution to church growth problems is more lay leaders (Main Idea).

## The worldly solution is to put more work on less people.

## God’s solution is more leaders to spread the blessing to more people.

# III. We must appoint more leaders to handle our growth (Main Idea Applied).

## We will continue to seek truth—not growth.

## We need more leaders of ministries.

# Conclusion

### The solution to church growth problems is more lay leaders (Main Idea).

### The passage teaches some great leadership principles.

#### Choose leaders closest to the issues and trust them.

#### Have the people choose leaders they already respect.

#### Character is more important than experience or ability.

#### Church leaders must prioritize teaching and prayer.

### What to do?

#### Consider how God allows problems in your life for your growth.

#### Ask God what role he wants you to play in this church.

#### Prioritize the word and prayer in your own life.

#### Attend our Loving Christ’s Church class by Pastor Jim.

Download this sermon PPT and notes for free at BibleStudyDownloads.org/resource/new-testament-preaching/