

Sermon Notes for November 9, 2025

Title: Great Gains and Growing Pains

Text: Acts 6:1-7

1. The church's great _____ came with growing _____.
 - a. The _____ (Acts 6:1)
 - b. The _____ (Acts 6:1)
 - c. The _____ (Acts 6:1-2)
 - d. The _____ (Acts 6:2-6)

2. The church's growing _____ led to even greater _____.
 - a. The number of _____ increased (Acts 6:6-7)
 - b. The _____ of God increased (Acts 6:6-7)
 - c. The _____ of God increased (Acts 6:7)
 - d. The number of _____ increased, even among the priests (Acts 6:7)

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Discussion Guide

1. What stood out to you in today's gathering?
2. What was the leading cause or causes of the growth of the early church (see Acts 2:41-47; 5:12-16; 6:7; 1 Cor 3:5-9)?
3. What were some of the things that could have hindered the growth of the early church (Acts 4:18; 5:3; 6:1)? John Stott wrote, "We have now seen the three tactics which the devil employed in his overall strategy to destroy the church. First, he tried through the Jewish authorities to suppress it by force; secondly through the married couple Ananias and Sapphira to corrupt it by hypocrisy; and thirdly through some squabbling widows to distract its leadership from prayer and preaching, and so expose it to error and evil." Do you think the devil is still attacking churches today through persecution, corruption, and distraction? Which of these is he most likely to use against our church in your opinion?
4. Should every Christian understand themselves to be involved in full-time ministry no matter their full-time job or calling? Explain.
5. How can you apply today's message to your life?

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