

# SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE



**PRINCE  
OF PEACE**  
Called to Connect



## Gifted Servants

*June 29-July 3, 2019*

God has uniquely gifted us all through the Spirit to serve. When we all do what God has created us and gifted us to do, the mission gets accomplished. Proclaiming the Gospel and caring for the needs of others are integral parts of the mission.

## SCRIPTURE TEXT: ACTS 6:1-7

Read the scripture text together as a group.

### BACKGROUND INFO

Missional success brings challenges. More converts means more needs to be fulfilled. More demands to be met. And it seems that at this early stage in the Church's development the apostles thought that they had to do it all – preach, teach, heal, pray AND feed the poor. As so often happens in the this story, crisis and necessity force the early Jesus movement to live into new paths of faithfulness. In this case, it mandated a shift from “paid staff do it all” to “it takes a village to grow a movement”.

It wasn't just the necessity of more hands to fulfill needs that comes to light in this passage; it's the recognition of various gifts for service. The apostles recognize that their calling and their gifts need to be invested into prayer and teaching. Others are chosen and affirmed by the community to distribute food to those in need.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What are your gifts for mission?
- Would the rest of your small group or others close to you confirm that?
- How did you discern your gifts? Who helped in that process?
- What do you think stands in the way of more disciples being engaged in serving in the mission?
- What can we learn from the apostles in this passage? How can we apply that same concept today?

*We are not volunteers in this mission. We are called, empowered and gifted servants who steward what God has first given us for the sake of the mission.*

**APPLICATION:** Talk with someone close to you about your gifts. Then, consider how you can take a deeper step into the mission using your gifts.