

A dark grey world map is centered in the background of the top half of the slide. The word "MISSION" is written in a large, bold, lime green font across the top of the map. Below it, the word "UNSTOPPABLE" is written in a large, bold, white font, also centered over the map.

# MISSION UNSTOPPABLE

Acts 6v1-7

**UNDER ATTACK - DISTRACTION**

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## 2 key phrases for Acts 6v1-7...

*'The main thing is to keep the main thing  
the main thing'*

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*'Good is the biggest enemy of the best'*

# Under attack...

- 1) **Corruption** – Acts 5v1-11
- 2) **Persecution** – Acts 5v12-42
- 3) **Distraction** – Acts 6v1-7

*“The devil’s next attack is the cleverest of the three. Having failed to overcome the church by either persecution or corruption, he now tries distraction. If he could preoccupy the apostles, with social administration, which though essential was not their calling, they would neglect their God-given responsibilities to pray and to preach, and so leave the church without any defence against false teaching.”*

**John Stott**

# 1) The Problem (v1)



**V1:** In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.

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## 2) The Solution (v2-6)



**V2:** So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables.

## 2) The Solution (v2-6)



*'When faced with distraction, we must take action'*

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*‘When faced with distraction, we must take action’*

**V3-4:** Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them <sup>4</sup> and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.”

## 2) The Solution (v2-6)



**V5-6:** This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. <sup>6</sup> They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

## **3 things to notice...**

- **What they were full of**

**V3:** Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be **full of the Spirit and wisdom.**

**V5:** They chose Stephen, a man **full of faith and of the Holy Spirit...**

## 3 things to notice...

- What they were full of
- **This is no lesser ministry**

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- What they were full of
- This is no lesser ministry
- **This doesn't prevent them from preaching and teaching**

# 1) The Problem (v1)



- Admin issue
- Grumbling
- Distraction



## 2) The Solution (v2-6)



- They gave that ministry over to others
- They gave themselves to prayer and ministry of the word

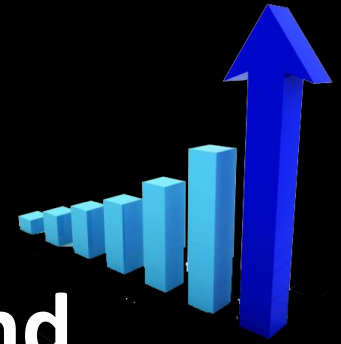
### 3) The Result (v7)



**V7: So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.**

### 3) The Result (v7)

- Elders must focus on prayer and ministry of the word



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- **We are ALL called to ministry**



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- We are ALL called to ministry
- **It's not the pastors job to do everything**



## 3 key phrases for Acts 6v1-7...

*'The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing'*

*'Good is the biggest enemy of the best'*

*'When faced with distraction, we must take action'*

