

MAIN POINT

Following Jesus requires serving others and boldly proclaiming the gospel.

INTRODUCTION

What is one thing in your life that you are prioritizing too highly? Why?

What's keeping you from devoting time and energy to what's most important?

The question of priorities is important for any Christian. All of us have to, at some point, make an active choice about what will be most important to us. The early church in Acts 6 faced a similar decision point, and their choice in that situation shows us that the most important thing in life is the gospel.

DISCUSSION

> **READ ACTS 1:8; 6:1-7; AND JOHN 14:12.**

What did Jesus promise His disciples in Acts 1:8? What command did He then give them?

Why was the coming of the Holy Spirit essential to the disciples' being witnesses?

Why is this important for you today as you seek to share the good news of Jesus with others?

What do you think the atmosphere was like in the early church during that time? Why?

In your own words, what was the issue the church faced in Acts 6? How did they deal with it?

Why was their food distribution problem, even though important, not the most important thing? How do you know?

What are some of the characteristics attributed to Stephen in this passage? Which one stands out the most to you? Why?

Why do you think the decision the church made led to spiritual success?

Why, if we make a similar decision in our lives to treat the gospel as the most important thing, can it lead to spiritual success?

How is it possible for you and I to do "greater works" than Jesus did (John 14:12)?

APPLICATION

What is one thing in your life that you need to look at as less important than the gospel? What is one way you are going to demonstrate that this week?