

June 18, 2017

Series: **Living Proof**

Active Ingredients for Spiritual Growth: Challenge & Change

Acts 6:1-7

Spiritual “growing pains” come from faith-based activity, inspired by the Holy Spirit, producing individual & congregational maturity.

Spiritual growth brings new challenges, therefore, the ongoing need for change, resulting in continued growth (fruit).

1. Growth always _____ about new challenges.

Acts 6:1

- _____: as opposition to the Gospel increases, more people believe in Jesus as Messiah.
- _____: church was experiencing favoritism.
(cf. Acts 2:42-47; James 2:1-13)
- _____: came through murmuring, whispering campaign, complaining going on outside of church leadership, who could provide solutions.

2. Growth always _____ for some kind of change.

Acts 6:2-6

- Apostles’ _____ necessary change.

What would be the **wrong** kind of change?

(cf. Mark 1:35-39; Matthew 28:19-20)

What would be the **right** kind of change?

(cf. Exodus 18; Ephesians 4:11-13)

- _____: select qualified change agents.
(cf. 1 Timothy 3:8-13; Philippians 1:1; Romans 16:1)

Full of the Holy Spirit - controlled and empowered

(cf. Ephesians 5:18)

Full of wisdom - applying God’s “know-how” to life

(cf. James 3:13-18)

- The _____. (v. 5-6)

3. The right kind of change _____ new growth.

(7) And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

- The word of God kept on growing (good news about Jesus).
- The number of disciples kept on multiplying (rapidly).
- A large number of priests kept on becoming **obedient** to the faith (repent and receive).