

Acts 6:1-7 /// Week of October 22

Today's big idea: We can trust the pastor.

- In general, do you prefer to be a leader or a follower, and why?
- Review the Community Group Guidelines together.
- What did you hear in the sermon that caught your attention?
- Someone pray that God would help us hear from him.

Head

When doing storytelling this week don't worry about all the names. You can stumble over those when you read the text from the Bible.

- Use the Bible Storytelling technique to tell the story of Caring for Widows.
- Retell the story together as a group.
- Read the story from Acts 6:1-7 in the Bible.
- What was so significant about the problem that needed addressed? **Life/death for a widow**
- What were the apostles (aka: pastors) responsible to do? **(Listen to all the followers, gather the disciples, come up with a plan, turn over the responsibility, prayer, minister the word, approve candidates, lay hands and pray for dedication)**
- What were all the outcomes of the decisions the apostles made? **(Pleased the whole group, provided opportunities for leadership, God's word spread, the number of disciples increased, priests became obedient to the faith)**

Heart

Especially for people who have been part of the church for a long time answering these questions may seem difficult. Assure the group the the goal is not to be rebellious but to be real about where we are so that God can work in that.

- In what ways are you open to a pastor leading you? (Preacher, counselor, prayer warrior, disciple maker, mediator, teacher, provide correction, problem solver, weddings and funerals, etc.)
- What have you experienced that may make submission to some of these roles more difficult?
- How has media coverage of "fallen" pastors impacted how you see and submit to their leadership?

Hands

- What are things you could do to help grow your trust in the pastors who lead you?
- Acts 6:5 says the whole group was pleased. What if you aren't pleased with the decisions of the pastor? What should you do?
Pastor Appreciation Sunday is coming up on November 5th. If you have time, brainstorm ways that you can show appreciation to the pastors of HFC.
- Pray for one another and for the pastors of the church.

Next Week: Can I Trust the Myself? Proverbs 3:5-12