

Kids at home with your family: 25th July 2021

Acts 6:1-7



The Big Idea: as the church grew, there were more people who needed caring for. The Apostles appoint seven leaders to help look after the people whilst they focus on praying and teaching the word.



Aim: to see that Jesus' work continues- God's word continues to go out to the world because the Church found a way of caring for one another, without stopping the Apostles from preaching and praying.

the passage: Acts 6:1-7 (ICB)

More and more people were becoming followers of Jesus. But during this same time, the Greek-speaking followers had an argument with the other Jewish followers. The Greek-speaking Jews said that their widows were not getting their share of the food that was given out every day. ² The 12 apostles called the whole group of followers together. They said, "It is not right for us to stop our work of teaching God's word in order to serve tables. ³ So, brothers, choose seven of your own men. They must be men who are good. They must be full of wisdom and full of the Spirit. We will put them in charge of this work. ⁴ Then we can use all our time to pray and to teach the word of God."

⁵ The whole group liked the idea. So they chose these seven men: Stephen (a man with great faith and full of the Holy Spirit), Philip,^[a] Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas (a man from Antioch who had become a Jew). ⁶ Then they put these men before the apostles. The apostles prayed and laid their hands on^[b] the men.

⁷ The word of God was reaching more and more people. The group of followers in Jerusalem became larger and larger. A great number of the Jewish priests believed and obeyed.

Game: you choose!

Which of the following would you choose?

1. It's nearly your birthday. Who should make you a cake?
 - You
 - Your next-door neighbour's 2 year old
 - Your parents/carers
2. There's a huge tree that needs chopping down. Who should do this?
 - A builder
 - A qualified tree surgeon
 - A nurse
3. There's a football match about to be played. Who should make sure the rules are followed?
 - The fans
 - The goalie
 - The referee
4. Your bedroom is a mess. Who should tidy it up?
 - You
 - Your parents/carers
 - The postman

Today we're thinking about Jobs and who are best suited for them!

Read the passage. (younger children may want to use the picture story version on page 3)

Questions to discuss:

A few weeks ago, we saw in Acts 4:32 that everyone in the church shared everything that they had and that there was no needy person amongst them. But in today's passage we find a problem comes up- some people are not getting the same care and treatment as others. This is a serious problem, it is really important that people in church feel loved and are cared for equally. At the time, the Apostles were leading the church and organising everything, what are they going to do with this problem? It's a big issue that needs sorting and is going to take a lot of time to make sure that people are well cared for. It will be a full time job as the church is growing big! Will they stop what they are currently doing (praying and teaching God's word) to focus on this? Let's see what happens...

1. **As the church in Jerusalem was growing what problem came up?** (Grecian Jews felt their widows were overlooked)
2. **Have you ever felt left out? What happened?**
3. **Have you ever been treated unfairly? Or seen someone else be? Talk about what happened and how it felt. Was it resolved?**
4. **What did the apostles do to make sure all the widows were treated fairly?** Appointed 7 men to make sure people were cared for – this shows that they thought it was really important that people were cared for properly, so important that they decided it needed to be a full time job for seven people!
5. **What were the apostles supposed to be focused on?** (Prayer and preaching)
6. **Why do you think this was important?**
7. **What character traits did the seven men need to have?** (Full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom)
8. **Why do you think this was important? Why do you think they had to be “full of the spirit” to do this job?**
9. **Name the seven men chosen.** (Stephen, Philip, Proculus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas)
10. **How did choosing the seven men help God's Work?** (God's Word spread and many more people believed in Jesus)
11. **It's great to see that this problem didn't stop God's word from spreading, but that the church found a way of still telling people about Jesus AND caring for everyone. Our church today still has the job of both telling people about Jesus and caring for people's needs. There are people who have full time jobs to do this (our preachers for example) but we can all play a part in helping! How do you think you can help a) tell people about Jesus and b) look after other people in church? Maybe try listing some ideas for you and your family!**

Prayer time: thank you God for helping the Apostles find a way to make sure that everyone in the church was looked after without having to stop telling people about Jesus. Thank you that you care about people being treated fairly. Thank you for our church leaders who work hard to tell people about Jesus, help us to find ways to do this too! Amen.

Activities:

- Think of ways that this week your family can a) tell people about Jesus, b) make sure someone in church feels loved.
- Colouring pages
- Word search



Seven important helpers

The church continued to grow quickly in Jerusalem.

They took care of each other by sharing all that they had.

But, some of the Greek speaking people felt their widows were not treated fairly.

They didn't receive the same amount of food as the Hebrew speakers.

1



The apostles knew this was wrong.

They wanted to do something.

But they knew they shouldn't stop teaching and praying to hand out the food.

They called a meeting and told the people to choose seven godly men to run the food program.

The men were well respected, full of the Spirit and wisdom.

2



The believers chose seven men.

The apostles prayed for them and laid their hands on them.

One of these men was Stephen (a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit).

Another was called Phillip.

The apostles were happy that God had provided the right men.

3



Everyone served in the ministry God gave them.

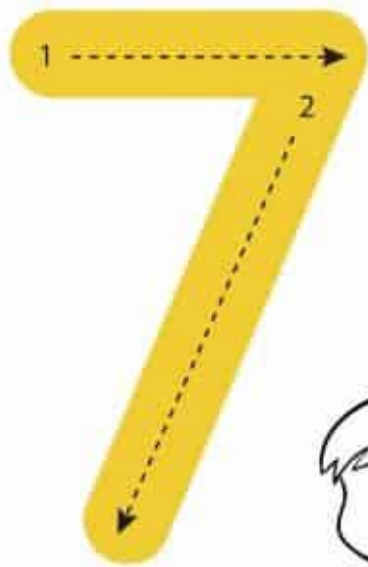
Some taught, some prayed, some gave and others served.

God's message continued to spread.

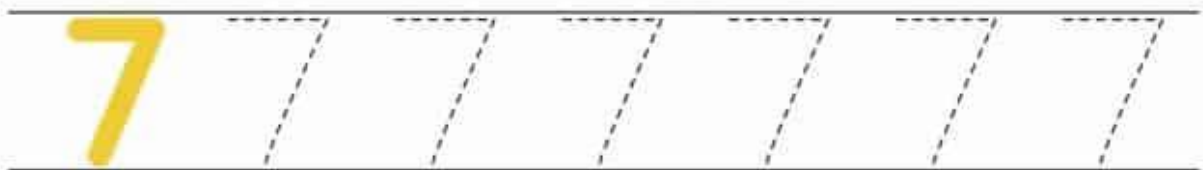
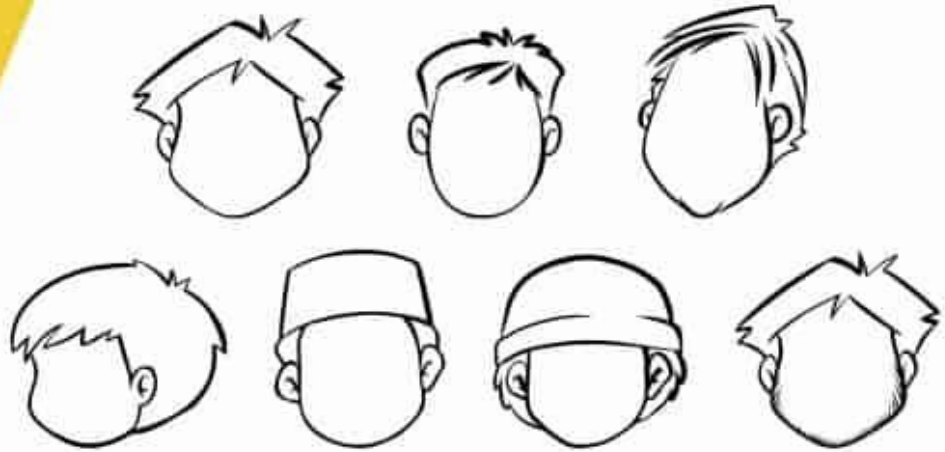
The number of believers greatly increased.

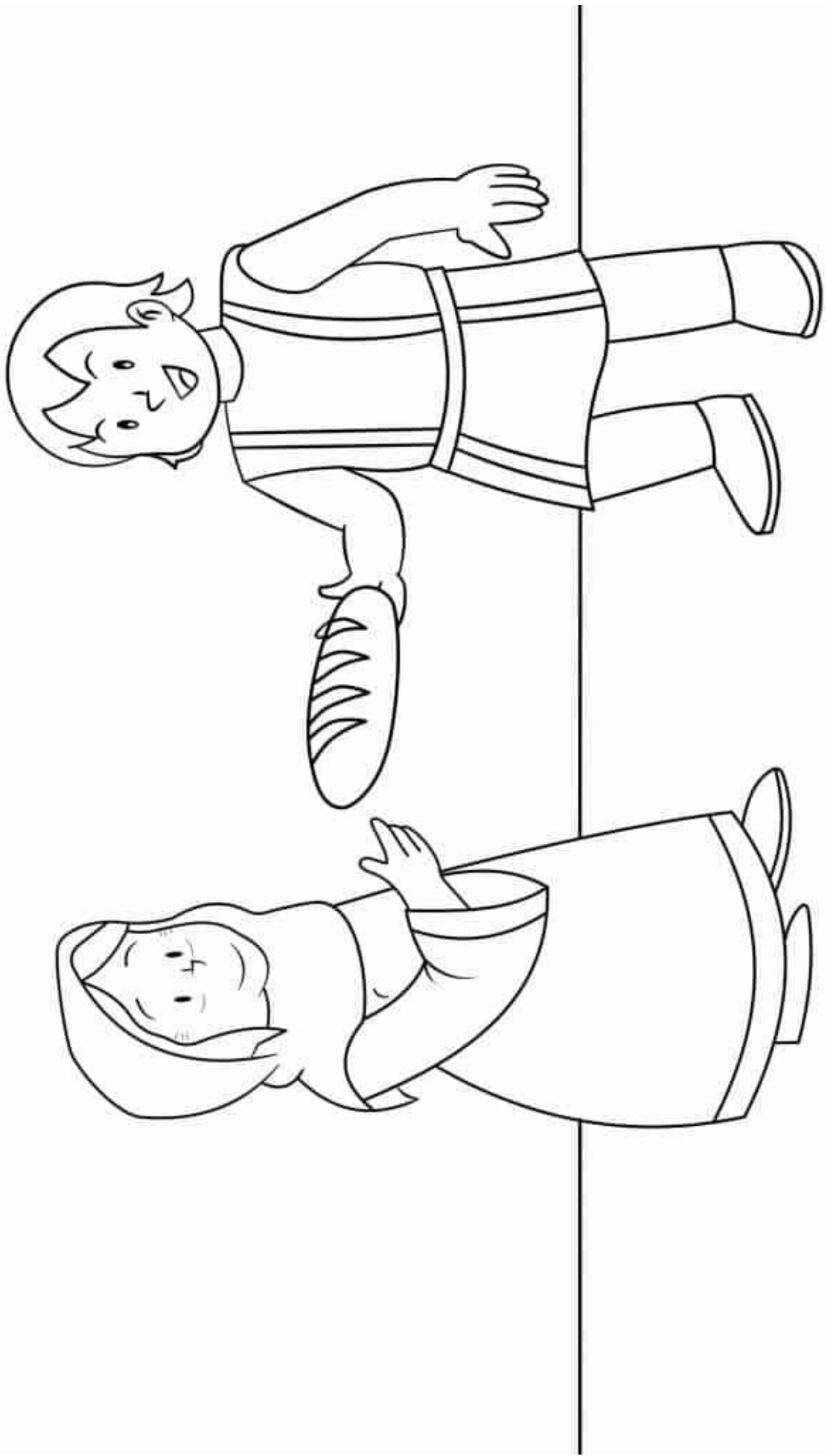
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Draw seven faces





choosing 7

N	W	L	M	T	F	O	O	D	E	H	D	S	S
I	S	P	I	S	S	T	I	M	O	N	T	U	A
C	N	R	O	P	O	P	N	N	E	S	N	R	N
O	P	I	L	I	H	P	I	H	M	L	E	O	E
L	T	T	I	T	S	C	L	R	O	A	M	C	M
A	O	M	D	W	A	S	E	R	I	A	U	O	R
S	T	L	O	N	E	I	D	T	C	T	G	R	A
T	O	D	O	L	O	C	E	I	I	L	R	P	P
I	I	R	B	W	N	L	V	R	T	G	A	T	B
W	A	A	P	I	E	S	E	L	T	S	O	P	A
O	T	L	I	S	V	A	I	P	C	T	M	A	M
M	I	M	L	D	E	C	L	D	I	I	D	N	M
N	S	O	P	O	S	T	E	P	H	E	N	D	E
I	M	S	N	M	A	A	B	E	T	D	N	P	T

WIDOWS
 TIMON
 BELIEVED
 PHILIP
 PROCORUS
 SPIRIT
 TABLES
 FOOD
 APOSTLES
 ARGUMENT
 PARMENAS
 SEVEN
 WISDOM
 NICOLAS
 NIKANOR
 STEPHEN

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/2612245/>

They devoted themselves
to the apostles' teaching
and to Fellowship,
to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Acts 2:42



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