



GROWING

Acts 6:1-2 ^(NLT) “But as the believers rapidly multiplied, there were rumblings of discontent. Those who spoke Greek complained against those who spoke Hebrew, saying that their widows were being discriminated against in the daily distribution of food. [2] So the Twelve called a meeting of all the believers. ‘We apostles should spend our time preaching and teaching the word of God, not administering a food program,’ they said.”

I. Growing _____.

(1) Is the _____ really in the _____?

(2) Is it okay if I _____?

Philippians 2:14-15 ^(NCV) “Do everything without complaining or arguing. [15] Then you will be innocent and without any wrong. You will be God’s children without fault. But you are living with crooked and mean people all around you, among whom you shine like stars in the dark world.”

1 Peter 4:9 ^(NIV)
“... Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.”

Romans 1:28-29 ^(NLT) “When they refused to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their evil minds and let them do things that should never be done. [29] Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, fighting, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip.”

(3) Is it okay to neglect _____?

“The urgent will always attempt to hijack the important.”

II. Growing _____.

Acts 6:3-6 ^(NLT) “Now look around among yourselves, brothers, and select seven men who are well respected and are full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom. We will put them in charge of this business. [4] Then we can spend our time in prayer and preaching and teaching the word.’ [5] This idea pleased the whole group, and they chose the following: Stephen (a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit), Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas of Antioch (a Gentile convert to the Jewish faith, who had now become a Christian). [6] These seven were presented to the apostles, who prayed for them as they laid their hands on them.”

(1) Choose to be a _____.

Matthew 5:9 ^(NCV) “Those who work to bring peace are happy, because God will call them his children.”

(2) Choose to be a _____.

(3) Choose to be a _____ in ministry.

Acts 6:7 ^(NLT) “God’s message was preached in ever-widening circles. The number of believers greatly increased in Jerusalem, and many of the Jewish priests were converted, too.”