

## The Caring Community

Acts 6:1-7

Linda Rudat

October 14, 2018



### NOTES

## The Caring Community

Acts 6:1-7

Suggested Questions for Individual Study or Group Discussion\*



- What kinds of practical and spiritual support have you received over the years from a deacon? What was it like for you to have this support?
- It is a strong American value to pull oneself up by our own bootstraps and be independent and self-sufficient. How strong an instinct is it for you to not have to ask someone for help? How does our belonging to the Christian community introduce a new value of interdependence?
- *Read Acts 6:1-7.* If this community was separated along cultural and linguistic lines (Hellenists and Hebrews), what are some of the subgroups within our own church family that might need intentional bridging?
- What do you see as the relationship between the Church's ministries of proclamation and of service? Can either one stand alone? Do you agree or disagree with the quotation: "Preach the Gospel at all times; when necessary, use words."
- Read together some of the "one another" passages (e.g., Gal. 6:2; Eph. 4:25; Heb. 10:24-25; James 5:16). Where do you see these kinds of relationships being lived out among us? How could we deepen our spiritual friendships to reflect more of these qualities?
- If it's true that deacons both lead and organize the caring efforts of the Christian community, where do you see your own unique spiritual gifts being used in the church's caring ministries?
- Whom is God calling you to serve and show Christ-like care and compassion this week? How might a deacon assist you? How can your small group or others support you in prayer as you minister to another in need?

\*Select or adapt questions to fit the needs and makeup of your group.

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