



Embracing or Resisting Change

Acts 6:1-15

1 – 7 A Strategy to Embrace Change

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 - Acts 2:47 – “added daily”
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 - Acts 2:41 – 3,000
 - Acts 2:47 – “added daily”
 - Acts 4:4 – 5,000
 - Acts 5:14 – “increasingly added”
 - Acts 6:1 – “multiplying”
 - **Total:** over 8,000

Verse 1 – Problem

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- **Two Groups Exist**
 - Common religion, but:
 - Some are more steeped in Jewish culture, some are more steeped in Greek culture
 - Some are local, some are from out of town
 - One group's needs aren't being met

Verse 2 – Petition

- **Addressing the Problem:**

Verse 2 – Petition

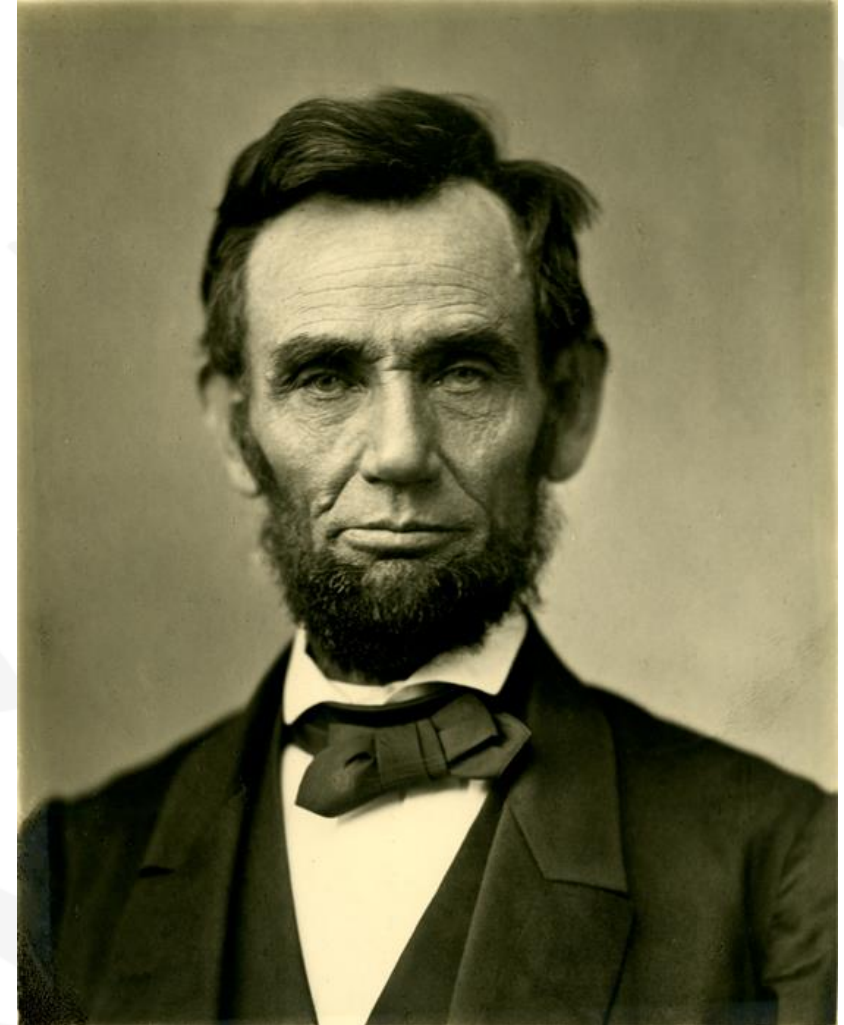
- **Addressing the Problem:**
 - The leaders received the complaint

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Management By
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MBWA

“It is being in touch, with people. It facilitates innovation, and makes possible the teaching of values to every member of the organization. Listening, facilitating, and teaching and reinforcing values. What is this except leadership?”

Lincoln on Leadership, Donald Phillips, 1992

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 - The leaders gathered their group together
 - The leaders had a plan
 - The leaders prioritized (and verse 4)

Verse 3 – Pick

- **Pick Seven!**

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 - The leaders delegated

Verse 3 – Pick

- **Pick Seven!**
 - The leaders delegated
 - The leaders stressed character
 - Exodus 18:21-22
 - Titus 1:5-9

Exodus 18: 21-22

“Moreover you shall select from all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them to be rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens. And let them judge the people at all times. Then it will be that every great matter they shall bring to you, but every small matter they themselves shall judge”

Verses 5 & 6 – Peace

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Verses 5 & 6 – Peace

- **The Outcome:**
 - The larger group is satisfied with the solution
 - The larger group knew who had mature character
 - Ordaining where God has already been at work
 - The larger group unites in prayer

Verse 7 – Prospering

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- The word of God spread
- The church grew numerically
- New classes of people were added to the church

To Ponder:

- How well do you listen to those around you?

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- How well do you listen to those around you?
- How willing are you innovate?
- How important is Godly character to you?
- How willing are you to trust others with power or responsibility?

8 – 15 A Strategy To Resist Change

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 2. Is confronted by the status quo (9)
 3. Cannot be stopped by human wisdom (10)
 4. Is resisted by secrecy and lies (11, 13)

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 7. Is undeniably “Godward” (15)

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- **Addressing the problem:**
 - Dispute (9) from the group
 - Defeat (10): the group cannot!
 - Deceit (11,13) from the group
 - Destabilizing (12) by the group
 - The pattern vs. Jesus (Matt. 26:59-61)
 - The pattern vs. Paul (Acts 21:26-30)

To Ponder:

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To Ponder:

- How do you handle disagreement with others?
- How far will you go to get your way?
- Are you manipulative?
- Do you ignore God's word?