



# REALife Application

## Growing Pains

**Acts 6:1-7**

### **The Situation:**

**1. As God expands the church, real needs can go unmet. Vv. 1-2**

**Ethnic Issue**

**Trust Issue**

**Distraction Issue**

**2. All needs in the church can be met by deploying qualified, empowered leaders. Vv. 3-7**

**Qualified: proven, spiritual, wise**

**Empowered: "turn this over"**

**Focused: Apostles stay on mission**

### **The Application:**

**1. Are we embracing the ethnic diversity of our community?**

**2. Are we meeting the real needs of those in our family?**

**3. Do we deploy each person in our family?**

**4. Are we on mission with the message of Jesus?**

*\*6th message in the Acts series, by Pastor Tim Hawks.  
CDs of this message (03/29/09) may be purchased at the  
Media Center or listened to online at [www.hcbc.com](http://www.hcbc.com).*

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or REALife Group.

1. Think of a time when the growth of something you were involved with created problems. How did those problems affect the endeavor? What did you learn from the experience?
2. How open are you to people who are very different from you? Do you have any close friends that are of a different race, significantly older or younger than you, are at a different economic level than you, etc.?
3. The Bible is clear that we must take care of people in need. See James 1:27; Deut. 14:28-29; James 2:15-16. What are some things you can do to help others during this economic crisis?
4. In what way are you using your spiritual gifts? Do you feel fully utilized? What can you do to be fully utilized?



### **Memory Verse**

*So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith. Acts 6:7*