

Growing pains in the early church.

Acts 6:1-2 In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.

The solution.

Acts 6:3-5 So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; (+6)

The laying on of hands.

Acts 6:6 They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

We could debate of the above ministries are most important.

But we would agree that both are important.

G-2.0104 "Ruling elders and teaching elders, together with the deacons, exercise the ministry of the church. Although the functions of ruling elders and teaching elders differ, both are called to serve Christ and the church and are equal in dignity and in the sight of God."

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

**Example: Memorial Service.**

FINAL THOUGHTS Psalm 104:24-30p. 941

*"The Spirit Brings Life"*

Psalm 104:30 When you send your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.

**Ministries that create and renew life?**

**Sermon Notes 01-12-2025**

FIRST THOUGHTS Luke 3:21-23 p. 1,594

*"It All Begins with the Spirit"*

"Once upon a time..."

"Three clergy walk into a bar..."

"Before You Start, Read All Instructions Carefully."

When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove.

**Christian Ministry always begins with the Holy Spirit.**

It is the Spirit that enlightens.

Luke 4:18-19 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

It is the Spirit that the equips.

Matthew 12:28 But if it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

It is the Spirit that empowers.

Luke 4:14 – Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about Him spread through the whole countryside.

**What is true about the Spirit in relation to Jesus' ministry is also true about the Spirit in relation to our ministry.**

FURTHER THOUGHTS

Acts 6:1-6 p. 1,700, 1 Corinthians 12:1-8 p. 1,785

*"All Gifts Are Important"*

Liverpool FC

Virgil van Dijk (Captain, Defense Lynchpin)

Mo Salah (Leading League Scorer)

Trent Alexander Arnold (Prodigy Right Back)

If you can only sign one?

*Prayerfully, openly engage in relationships  
through Christ's love."*

**CONTACT INFO**

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**PRAYER LIST**

Hope Glesner, Barry Miller, Dorothy Drescher, Family of Gary Smith, Jenny Kump, David English, Chris English, Ray Border, Donnie McKeehan.

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**Local Church:** 1<sup>st</sup> Church of God- Wayne Good

**Presbyterian:** Christ Camp Hill- Rev Bill Hudson

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**January 12<sup>th</sup>** Ordination and Installation of Elders and Deacons.

**January 25<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm** Game night.

**February 2<sup>nd</sup> after 10:15 worship.**

*"Jesus Loves You"* Covered Dish Dinner. Bring a covered dish or two and your table service and enjoy *"warm"* fellowship. Drinks provided.