

MY NOTES

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

Thank you for joining us today. This is a short note to let you know that we know what you are thinking: It is hot and cramped in this room. We want to acknowledge with you that yes, the front room is full, the kids rooms are full, and it can get warm. We are working on alleviating this right now by building our own building on the land just north of us (we must be out of this one by December 2016).

There is a lot that goes into the process of Element having a permanent home, but we hope that today you are first drawn to Jesus before you are overwhelmed by anything else. If it gets too hot, we may hand out popsicles to help you cool off and give you a sugar rush. If you would like a service that has open seats (and is cooler), you are invited to our 8:15am service. Please understand that all of these “challenges” are because of our love for Jesus, people, and growth that has come quickly. These are good things. We hope you will stay as we work to make more room for you to be part of the good thing Jesus is doing here. If you would like more information about our building process or how you can participate, you can visit: www.elementroots.org.

- The Element Team

Week 17

ACTS

Leadership That Grows
Through Mistakes

TODAY'S VERSES:

Acts 6:1-7

Acts 6:1

Matthew 16:26

Matthew 14

1 Timothy 4:7-8

UPCOMING @ ELEMENT

Gospel Class:

Starts June 5th at 9:30a
in upstairs classroom.

An 8 week class that
goes through basic
Doctrine in Christianity &
what Element believes
specifically.

Airforce Care Package

Help us send some
goodies and notes to
the 451 ESPT Squadron
serving in Afghanistan.
Check out the Welcome
Center for a list of do's
& don'ts and bring next
Sunday for shipment.





Week 17 – Acts 6:1-7 Leadership That Grows Through Mistakes

We are in our 17th week of the book of Acts. We are doing Acts in an attempt to grow as a church in the knowing what God called the early church to do (be a witness). Jesus empowered the early church, by sending the Spirit, to live His mission on the earth. We hope that if you spend time in the book of Acts you have grown with us. Today we look at what happens when a church fails...or does something wrong. How does the leadership and the membership grow through it?

When was the last time you failed?

How did you change because of that failure?

We have all failed, the question becomes what will we do with that failure? Up to this point in Acts the church is living in the power of the Spirit, amazing things are happening and the church has been growing and succeeding (we would call this lots of 'wins'). In Acts 5 we see the beginnings of internal accountability and external persecution. Now we see the beginnings of internal opposition. Acts is moving on a trajectory of how this church grew into what we know today. Here, in Acts 6, there comes internal opposition because of a failure on the leadership's part.

Read Acts 6:1-7.

How have you seen churches fail?

How have you seen Element fail?

Every church will fail at something because churches are made up of people. Some people love, to complain, point out failures, and then leave rather than working through changes and growth. As we have seen in the book of Acts, growth is hard and takes commitment to one another to truly grow into a family that is centered on Jesus.

When you see failures in friends' lives that effect you, how do you respond?

When you see failures at your work place, church, or family, how do you respond?

We have to understand that even good churches fail, good leadership fails, because we aren't Jesus. The early church were guys who were trained by Jesus Himself, they were empowered by God's Spirit, they did miracles, and they still failed. It is not an excuse for hurting others, but every church fails at something and every leader fails at something. As we have said previously, everyone is a leader somewhere, whether it is at home, at work, in a friendship, with your children, or in a church.

What do you want from others when you fail?

What do we want from others when they fail us?

The disciples learned from their mistake because failure, when afforded enough grace, can be a powerful motivator for change. There must be hope of reconciliation and growth. Neil Warren wrote, *"lack of hope is what kills marriages more than anything else. When hope dies, the motivation to change dies..."* The disciples saw their failure and took steps to remedy it; they didn't throw their hands up say, "I'm done." They didn't get bogged down in depression, even though they probably felt bad, they looked at what was best for the gospel to move forward.

What is hardest for you, to stay and help others (or a church) grow through failures, or to complain and simply leave a relationship, job, or church? Why?

We read an amazing line at the end of these verses in Acts 6 (verse 7) **and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.** Many of the priests, the ones who have stood against the Apostles, start to believe in Jesus. The belief in Jesus comes after the Apostles' failure; maybe they see how the Gospel of Jesus Christ led them to handle such an explosive issue. Maybe they begin to understand they originally saw Jesus' death on the cross as a failure, yet it was the ultimate victory. I think that maybe they are beginning to understand resurrection.

How have you allowed others to grow through their mistakes?

The Apostles had to walk through a minefield of their own making, it was not easy, but they laid their hope in Jesus and worked for reconciliation, as we all should.

So far in Acts:

A Story That
Enlightens Us

A Resurrection And
Ascension That Is
Promised To Us

Guidance That Leads Us

A Heritage That
Informs Us

Worship That
Reminds Us

Preaching That
Changes Us

Generosity That
Defines Us

Compassion That Is
Bigger Than Us

Truth That
Challenges Us

A Name That
Confronts Us

Community That
Encourages Us

Membership That
Accounts For Us

Accountability That
Exposes Us

A Hope That Heals Us

A Joy In Our Identity

A Lifestyle of Mission