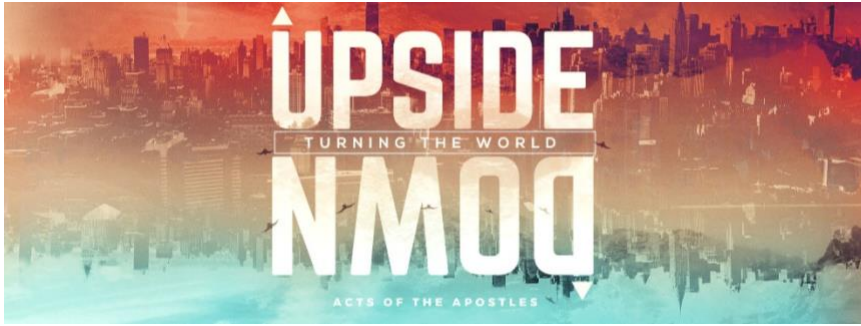




Values Clarification

Life Group Study, Week of March 20, 2022

Engage.

If you were to describe yourself as a flavor, what would your flavor be?

If you had the opportunity to hear Pastor Jim's message on Sunday, what stood out to you personally? What questions or conflicts did it raise for you, if any?

Look at the Book: Read Acts 6:1-7

What is this passage all about?

"Complaint" in verse 1 translates a Greek word that means "grumbling" or "murmuring." How is that dynamic worse for the church than openly- and honestly-expressed complaint? Why?

How do you understand the biblical mandate for God's people to care for the vulnerable among us, particularly widows? Read Exodus 22:22; Deuteronomy 10:18; 24:19-21; 27:19; Psalm 68:5; 146:9; Jeremiah 22:3; Zechariah 7:9-10; Malachi 3:5; James 1:27.

How serious a concern for any church is the matter of racial or ethnic discrimination or division? Why? Read 1 Corinthians 10:32-33; 12:12-13; Galatians 3:27-28; Acts 17:26.

What challenges might arise in a multi-racial and multi-ethnic church today? What advantages might that church nevertheless experience?

What priorities did the apostles clarify in the solution to the crisis the church had encountered? Why was that clarification necessary?

What happens to a church when the pastors and elders are distracted from their essential priorities to address urgent needs or to perform more mundane tasks?

Why did the task of administering the church's care for widows require men of godly character? Of what significance is that dynamic for the church today?

What did each of the seven men selected and appointed to the task of administering the church's care for widows have in common? Why was this so important?

What positive outcomes resulted from the apostles' sound decision-making and the ministry of the seven? How do you explain those outcomes?

Apply

Read. How might Ephesians 4:15-16 inform a church's response to a conflict such as the one described in Acts 6:1-7? Be specific.

How will you personally contribute to the unity of the body of Christ at LPC?