

Still Called, Still Sent (5)
God's Power in Ordinary People
Acts 6:1–8

Introduction: God is not finished with you. There is no “spiritual retirement.” God uses seasoned hearts to meet real needs. God’s Word is filled with stories of people whom He used in powerful ways during their later years:

- **Moses** was 80 when called at the burning bush (Exodus 7:7).
- **Caleb** conquered giants at 85 (Joshua 14:10–12).
- **Anna** and **Simeon** faithfully served and bore witness to Christ in the temple (Luke 2:25–38).

“As long as we have breath, God has a purpose and plan for our life. He’s not finished with us yet.” God’s power flows through ordinary people when they are willing to serve.

I. Serving with God’s wisdom – Meeting real needs with seasoned hearts: Acts 6:1–4

- A. The complaint of the church** - The early church faced a crisis: Hellenistic Jewish widows were being overlooked in food distribution.
- B. The conference of church leaders** - The apostles, led by the Spirit, appointed seven men “full of the Spirit and wisdom” to meet the need (Acts 6:3).
- C. The choice by the church leaders** - The apostles weren’t looking for youth or charisma—they sought spiritual maturity. Seasoned believers have learned God’s faithfulness and offer wisdom grounded in Scripture and life experience. This is where seasoned believers shine!

Job 12:12 — *“Wisdom is with aged men, and with length of days, understanding.”*

Proverbs 16:31 — *“The silver-haired head is a crown of glory, if it is found in the way of righteousness.”*

James 3:17 — *“The wisdom that is from above is... full of mercy and good fruits...”*
Senior saints...

- Notice what others may overlook.
 - Offer biblical counsel from decades of walking with God.
 - Your service may be mentoring, teaching, or comforting the grieving.
 - Your long track record of faith is a qualification that brings weight and influence.
- “Godly seniors provide strength and stability to the church.”* — John MacArthur

II. Serving with God’s strength – Spirit-empowered at every age: (Acts 6:5–8)

A. The individuals – (acts 6:5) list these men and highlights Stephen was chosen because he was “full of faith and the Holy Spirit.”

1. Though he was appointed to serve tables, his faithfulness led to a miraculous impact:
2. “Stephen, full of grace and power, was performing great wonders” (Acts 6:8).

B. The installation – *(V. 6) says the Apostles laid hands on them and commissioned them to this service.*

C. The Increase – *(v.7) The Word of God spread, and the number of disciple increased rapidly because these willing servants – served in God’s strength. (This reminds us God is not asking for our ability, He is asking for our availability).*
(Ephesians 3:20; 2 Corinthians 4:16; Isa. 40:29–31; James 5:16; Colossians 1:29)

Peggy and Christine Smith, aged 84 and 82, were prayer warriors whose faithful intercession sparked the Hebrides Revival (1949–1952). Though homebound, their spiritual influence shook the Scottish islands.

- Your serving may look different than before — but your impact is just as great.
- Prayer is powerful ministry.
- Be faithful in intercession, mentoring, and spiritual encouragement.

III. Serving with humility – Embracing the role of a servant: (Acts 6:1–6)

A. The Men selected - The chosen men weren’t seeking recognition.

1. They served in unseen, humble roles. Yet their names are etched in scripture forever.

2. Jesus modeled this servant leadership: *“The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve”* (Mark 10:45).

B. We should stay active in service to the Lord - Challenge: Don’t shy away from a task that may seem menial, these humble acts are filled with spiritual significance when done in Jesus’ name. (1 Peter 5:5; Jn. 13:3–17; Luke 16:10; Matthew 10:42; Psalm 84:10; 1 Corinthians 15:58)

C. We should serve Christ wholeheartedly to the end, no matter what that entail.
Doing so, you are leaving a legacy and a spiritual legacy of servanthood.

Corrie ten Boom, who began international ministry in her 60s and served faithfully into her 80s—even after a series of strokes—reminds us that God’s usefulness does not diminish with age.

- Embrace every opportunity, big or small, as kingdom work.
 - Model servanthood for the next generation.
 - Your faithful presence and joyful humility shape the culture of your church.
- “As long as you’ve got a breath in you, God’s got a job for you to do.”* — James Merritt

Conclusion: *You are Still Called, Still Sent* (Psalm 71:18; Psalm 92:13–15) Let your motto be: *“The rest of my life will be the best of my life in service to Christ.”* (Mt. 25:21)