#### We are an Apostolic Household.

# of food.

- Acts 6:1

In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution

#### Growth tests our perspective.

In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them **complained** against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.

- Acts 6:1

Live a cheerful life, without complaining or division among yourselves.

- Philippians 2:14 (TPT)

Do everything without grumbling or arguing. - Philippians 2:14 (NIV)

than I desire you to be, and you may find me different than you and angry outbursts, with selfish ambition, slander, gossip, arrogance, and turmoil.

- 2 Corinthians 12:20

- 20 Now I'm afraid that when I come to you I may find you different would like me to be. I don't want to find you in disunity, with jealousy

### **Growth increases our** leadership.



2 So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It We will turn this responsibility over to them 4 and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

- Acts 6:2-4

- would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God
- in order to wait on tables. 3 Brothers and sisters, choose seven men
- from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom.

#### Growth upgrades our unity.



5 This proposal pleased the who man full of faith and of the Holy Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas fr 6 They presented these men to t their hands on them.

- Acts 6:5-6

#### 5 This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a

- man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor,
- Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism.
- 6 They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid

### Our response to growth increases our effectiveness to the call.

7 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

## Growth gives us the opportunity to step into the new space that has been created for us.

- 35 Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. 38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."
- Matthew 9:35-38