



Grace Assembly Of God

## CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER BIBLE READING DEVOTIONAL

Scripture:	Acts 6	Title:	Don't be Distracted, Delegate!
Author	Ps Steve Tan		
Summary of Chapter	As the early church expanded, a dispute arose. The Hellenistic Jews complained that the needs of their widows were overlooked. The Twelve apostles gathered and appointed seven men to manage the urgent task at hand. Subsequently, Stephen, one of the seven appointed deacons was arrested due to false accusations, when the opposing Jews could not stand up against him.		

Key Verse(s) NIV	How does it speak to me?
<i><sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> Brothers and sisters, 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 <sup>4</sup> and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."</i>	These verses did not infer that the Twelve apostles regarded waiting on tables as something less important, compared to prayer and ministry of the word. In fact, some refer to it as managing of a poverty fund, which is a vital part of the early church life. The apostles were simply saying, "Look, we cannot do everything, else we will be distracted from our key ministry. It is not good for the growth of the church. Let us delegate, so that we can focus on what we are called to do." Some of us may find ourselves struggling in similar situations, whether at home, work, or ministry. We are stretching ourselves too thin in our different roles and responsibilities and become distracted from our key focus amid all the busyness. I do not know about you, but one of my struggles is letting go. Sometimes I feel reluctant to delegate because delegating often cost me more effort and time as I need to rectify the work of others to meet the expected deliverables. Therefore, I would rather do it myself, but this often distracts me from my key focus or other more important tasks. Some time ago, I was organizing a major church event. Although I have a capable committee, I was trying to be involved in every detail and fail to delegate adequately. I stretched myself so thin that I may have overlooked and neglected my key responsibilities in ministry, obligations to my family, and even my own spiritual walk. Colleagues were chasing me for deadlines and my children were constantly asking where daddy was. I was so busy and distracted that I have nothing left for other important things in my life. Finding the right people to delegate is important. And trusting them to do the job right will relieve us to focus on our priorities.

### APPLICATION REFLECTIONS

Adult:	Are you bogged down with many responsibilities today? What are some areas which you can prayerfully delegate to others, so you can focus on your key responsibilities or calling?
Youth:	What are you easily distracted by that you cannot focus on your key responsibilities like studies or ministry or family?
Child:	What are you easily distracted by when it is time to study? Share with your parents what you are going to do to avoid distractions.

### PRAYER

Praying Scripture:	Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for Your reminder today that we need to stay focused and pay attention to what You have called us to do. Help us to learn to delegate some of the tasks to others, and not rely just on ourselves. Send the right helpers to us. We commit our responsibilities to You. May You prosper the works of our hands so that Your name may be glorified.
Thanksgiving Prayer:	I/We thank you for _____ (e.g. delicious food we ate, places we went, prayer that was answered, etc)
Intercessory Prayer:	I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)
Salvation Prayer:	I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (add one name per day). In Jesus' Name I/we pray. Amen.