How To Respond To Growing Pains

Acts 6:1-7
Unstoppable Power: The Book of Acts
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Introduction

Acts 6:1-7 - Choosing of the Seven and Spread of the Word

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.

Main idea: Growing pains are <u>still pains</u>. We must respond by prioritizing and delegating!

5 Truths About Prioritizing and Delegating

1.	<u>Identify the problems</u> that need to be solved. (Vs. 1)
2.	Realize the consequences of not solving the problems.
3.	<u>Define the priorities</u> of the people involved. (Vs. 2)
4.	Delegate some of the <u>responsibilities to other people</u> . (Vs. 3-6)
5.	Celebrate the impact and results of solving the problems.

² 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. ³ 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 ⁴ and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

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 their hands on them.

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.