

Called to Serve

ACTS 6: 1-7



Called to Grow

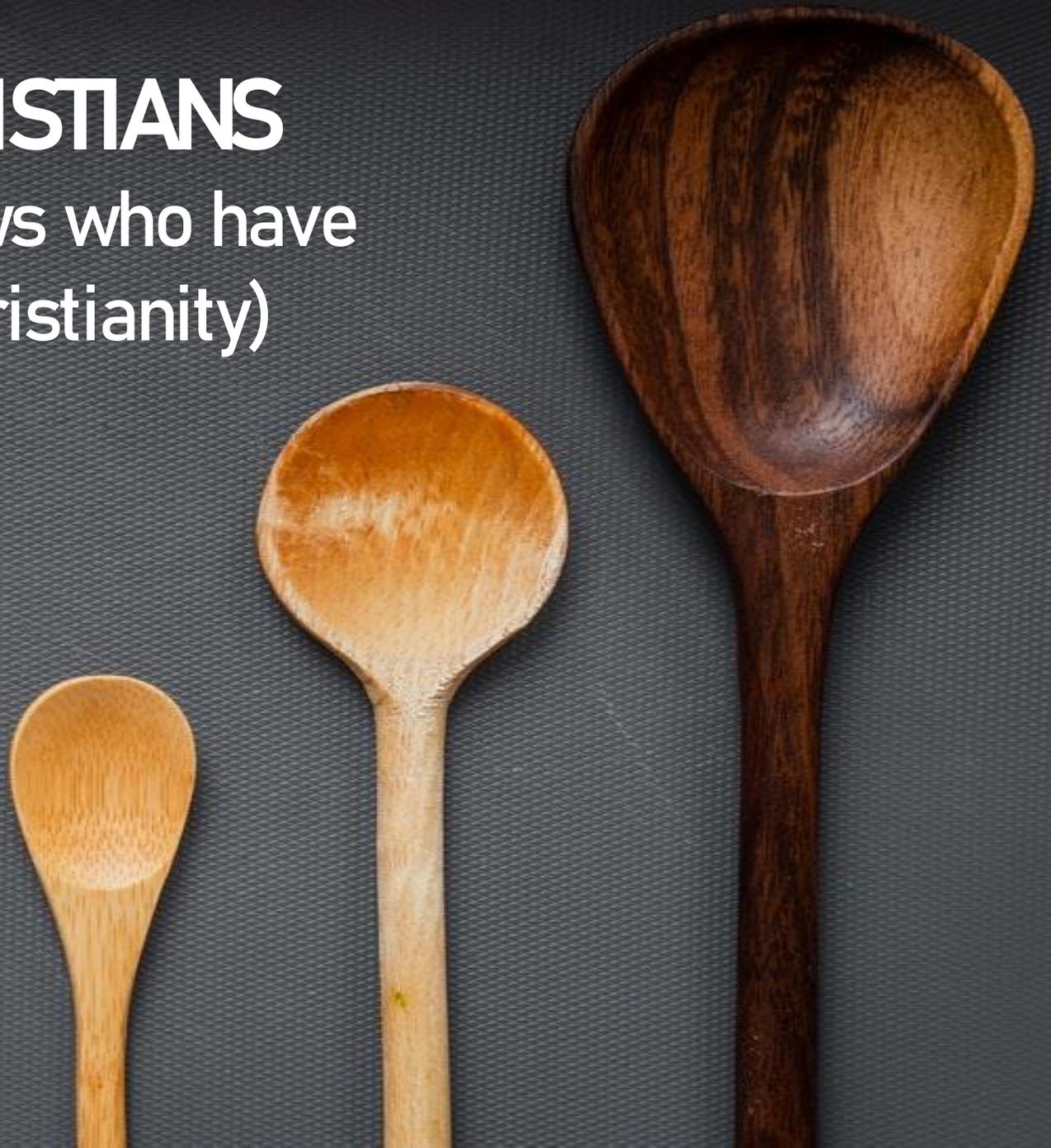
...but that often leads to growing pains...

6 But as the believers^[a] rapidly multiplied, there were rumblings of discontent. The Greek-speaking believers complained about the Hebrew-speaking believers, saying that their widows were being discriminated against in the daily distribution of food.



HEBREW CHRISTIANS

(probably local Jews who have converted to Christianity)

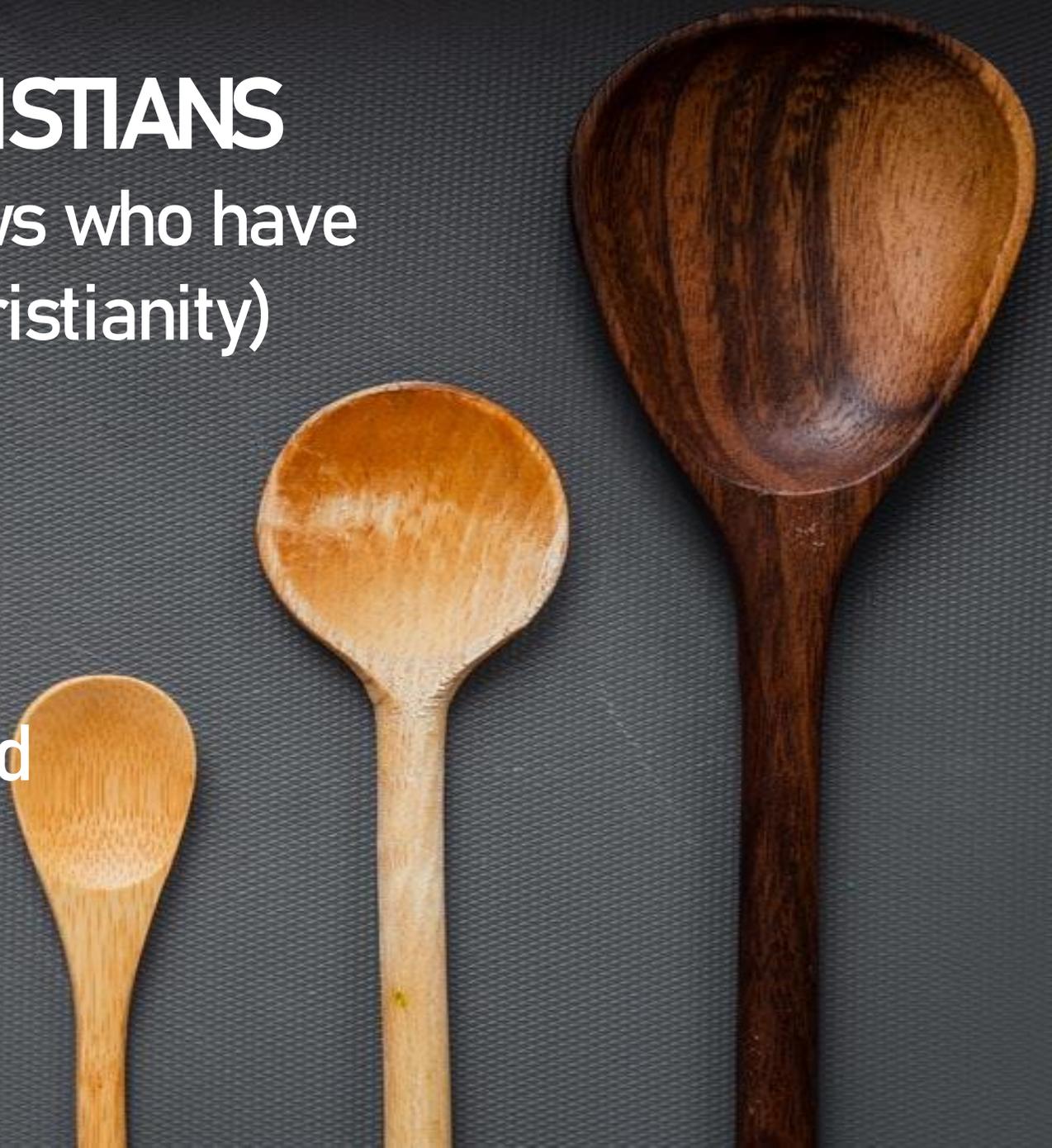


HEBREW CHRISTIANS

(probably local Jews who have converted to Christianity)

GREEK CHRISTIANS

(probably Jews from other lands who had been converted at Pentecost)



Increased Growth

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Increased Need



Increased Growth = Increased Need



Increased Growth = Increased Need



PROBLEMS START TO EMERGE



Increased Growth = Increased Need



PROBLEMS START TO EMERGE



? WHAT DO WE DO NOW?



Increased Growth = Increased Need



PROBLEMS START TO EMERGE

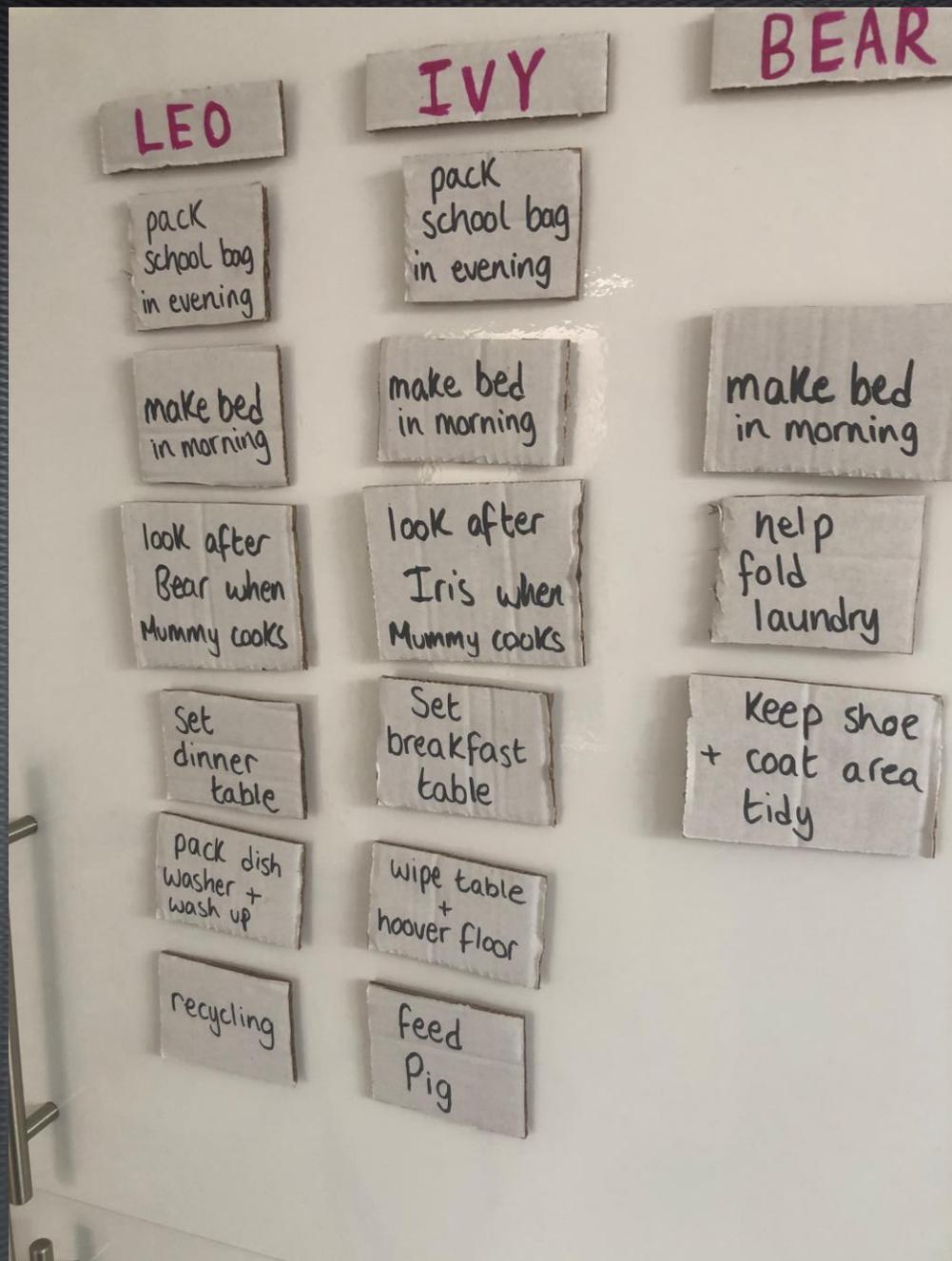


? WHAT DO WE DO NOW?



**Increased Need requires
Increased Service**









Increased Growth = Increased Need



PROBLEMS START TO EMERGE



? WHAT DO WE DO NOW?



**Increased Need requires
Increased Service**

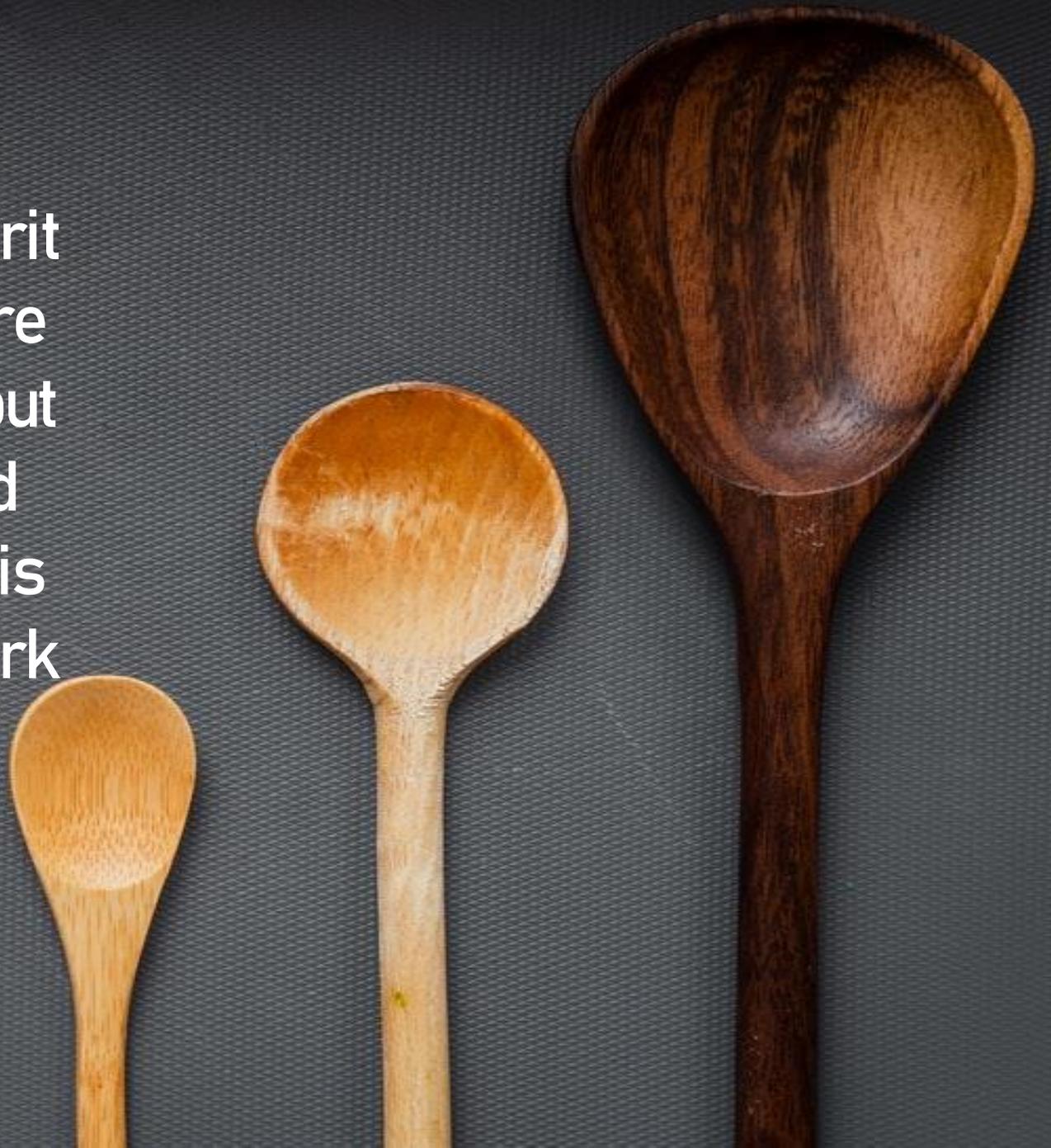


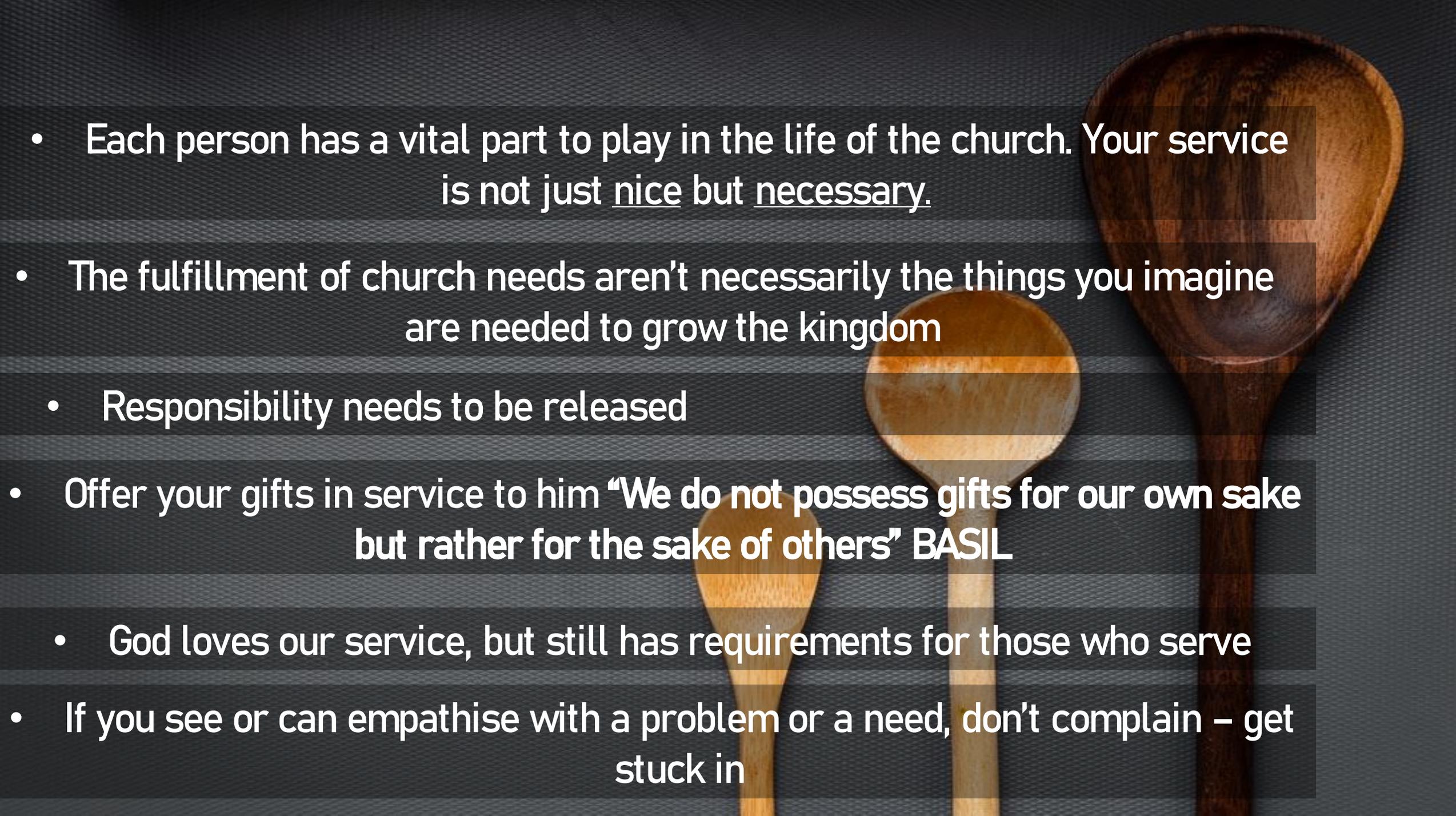
³ And so, brothers, select seven men who are well respected and are full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will give them this responsibility. ⁴ Then we apostles can spend our time in prayer and teaching the word.”



⁴ There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. ⁵ There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. ⁶ God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us.

1 Corinthians 12 vs 4 - 6



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- Each person has a vital part to play in the life of the church. Your service is not just nice but necessary.
 - The fulfillment of church needs aren't necessarily the things you imagine are needed to grow the kingdom
 - Responsibility needs to be released
 - Offer your gifts in service to him **“We do not possess gifts for our own sake but rather for the sake of others” BASIL**
 - God loves our service, but still has requirements for those who serve
 - If you see or can empathise with a problem or a need, don't complain – get stuck in

Growth

Need

Service





Honestly? I'm a little tired of celebrity pastors, and the constant stream of scandals, and the swagger of many mega churches.

I'm troubled by the loud applause we give to pride and mere efficiency; the dearth of simple kindness, humility and mess in the way we build community.

Since when was the measure of a church's success its size instead of its love? Its budget instead of its sacrifice? Its seating capacity instead of its sending capacity?

Can we please all just put down our spread sheets and our smart phones for a moment and simply remember Jesus?

I love the church too much, and we actually need the church too much, to leave her the way she is. The world needs a church in every community that does the works of Jesus, looks and sounds like Jesus and models true family for those who feel lonely and lost.

In other words we owe the world a church much more beautiful than itself.

JESUS

