

 9:38

 MAXIMISE

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**Richard Coekin**

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# ACTS 6:1-7

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**THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER & THE WORD**

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*The Bible teaches us, as the people God has made us, with the privileges God has given us, in the circumstances God has placed us, to do what we can to **maximise gospel ministry** – **in ourselves and in others.***

**Principle No.1:** *maximising gospel ministry, in ourselves or others, is a priority for every Christian (v.2)*

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**Principle No.2:** *building teams enables churches to maximise their gospel ministry (v.3-4)*

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**Principle No.3:** *different people need to accept different roles to maximise gospel ministry (vs.5-6)*

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# Acts 6 Introduction

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**1. A serious need threatened to obstruct  
gospel ministry: *by distraction!* (6:1)**

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- a) This neglect could become life-threatening
- b) This neglect could become gospel-undermining
- c) This neglect could become personally humiliating

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**1. A serious need threatened to obstruct gospel ministry: *by distraction!* (6:1)**

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**2. The Apostles' prioritised word ministry:  
*by delegation!* (6:2)**

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- Scripture doesn't teach pastors are superior
- Scripture doesn't teach everyone should become a pastor
- Scripture doesn't teach our lives are only for evangelism
- Scripture doesn't teach everyone can do more for the gospel in a pastoral role

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We all have two kinds of ministry:  
**creation ministry and new creation ministry**

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## **Scripture does teach:**

1. Gospel ministry was Jesus' priority
2. Gospel ministry meets people's deepest needs
3. Gospel ministry brings the deepest social change
4. Gospel Ministry grows the kingdom of God
5. Gospel Ministry is God's priority
6. Gospel Ministry glorifies God

So as the people God has made us, with the privileges God has given us, in the circumstances God has placed us, we must not allow ourselves to be diverted by urgent social need from doing whatever we can to maximise gospel ministry in ourselves or in others.

⇒ Don't be a spectator – get on the pitch -  
**maximise gospel ministry!**