

姓名:

團契:

參與事奉 **Become part of the Ministry**

經文：使徒行傳六：1-6。 **Scripture: Acts 6:1-6**

讀經文

別人向我抱怨時，我通常如何反應（無論抱怨我，或與我有關的人）？ **What's my reaction when others make complain to me? (either about someone associates to me or me)**

小知識：猶太律法明訂有照顧孤兒寡婦的條例。（申十：18、十四：28-29；十六：11；廿四：19-21；廿六：12-13）。這樣的傳統也在教會中延續下來。根據歷史記載，當時婦女守寡的比例非常高。在寡婦當中，由於希臘化的婦女多半身邊沒有親屬，成為弱勢中的弱勢。

Knowledge base: It is part of the Law that widows and orphans need to be taking care of among the Jewish people. (Dut. 10:18; 14:28-29; 16:11; 24: 19-21; 26:12-13) The early church has inherited this tradition. According to history, the number of women losing their husbands was high. Since the Hellenized widows usually don't have relatives around, they became even more vulnerable than their Hebrew-speaking counterparts.

(V.3) 你認為什麼是有好名聲的標準？為什麼教會的領袖需要有好名聲？ What is a person with "good standing" (NRSV, means a good disciple of the Christian faith) in your opinion? Why does a church leader need to have such a character?

參考提摩太前書三：8-13；提多書一：6-9。教會領袖代表整個教會信徒的屬靈生命的狀況。領袖們沒有好名聲，表示他們的生命根本沒有被神改變，表示這是一個沒有見證的教會。這樣的教會不是真正屬神的，也沒有神的福音在當中。以初代教會所面對的逼迫來看，如果教會的領袖還沒有好名聲，可能會有更多基督徒會殉道，甚至影響教會的生存。Cf. 1 Timothy 3:8-13; Titus 1: 6-9. Church leaders represent the spiritual life of the entire church. If leaders are not people of good standing, their life has not been transformed. The church then is not a witness-bearing church. Such a church doesn't belong to God and does not have Gospel in it. The first church was facing such tremendous persecution that if its leaders were not virtuous, it would endanger the existence of the church.

你認為被聖靈充滿的人是什麼樣子？為什麼教會的領袖需要被聖靈充滿？**What does a person filled with the Holy Spirit like? Why do church leaders need to be filled by the Holy Spirit?**

參考加拉太書五：25、哥林多前書二：14-16。教會的領袖要過被聖靈充滿的生活，才能活出有見證的生命，並明白神對教會的計畫。Cf. Galatians 5:25; 1 Corinthians 2:14-16. Church leaders need to live a spirit-filled lifestyle to bear witness to the Gospel as well as to discern God's will for the church.

你認為智慧充足的人是什麼樣子？為什麼教會領袖需要有充足的智慧？**What does a person full of wisdom look like? Why do church leaders need to be wise?**

當人在服事神時，做事的能力和屬靈的眼界一樣重要。綜合箴言的描述，智慧人有認識神的知識、有教導的恩賜、為人處世得體、說出來的話能造就人。這些都是能幫助教會越來越親近神，也越來越合一的特質。The ability to complete given tasks is equally important to the ability to discern God's will when it comes to serving God. The summarization of the characteristics of a wise person as described in Proverbs is knowing God, gifted in teaching, conducting things and treating people properly, and the able to build-up people. All of those are critical qualities which will bring people closer to God, as well as uniting the church.

反思與禱告 Reflection and Prayer

請為你所認識的一位教會領袖禱告，讓這位領袖成為一位「有好名聲、被聖靈充滿、智慧充足的人」。也為彼此禱告，求神也賜下這些特質給彼此，使人人都配成為教會的領袖。**Pray for one of the church leaders you know of so this person become someone "of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom." (NRSV) Also, pray for one another that you too will become a person "of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom," fitting to be a leader in the church.**