

# Journey CHURCH

Pastor James Greer  
[James@jcpineville.com](mailto:James@jcpineville.com)  
[www.jcpineville.com](http://www.jcpineville.com)



## Holy Shift in Deacons Has the Minister of Deacons Died?

The longer something exist the easier it is to Shift from its original intent, meaning, or purpose.

- I. ***First shift* in the church was to even have deacons. (Acts 6:1-4, NKJV; Acts 6:1, TLB; Acts 6:4, TLB)**
  - a. The original intent for deacons was to free pastors and leaders up so they could give themselves to prayer, teaching, and preaching.
  - b. The original intent for deacons was to make sure all the widows were not being discriminated against.
  - c. The first shift was all who believed sold their possessions and laid them at the apostle's feet. (Acts 2:44-46, NKJV; Acts 4:34-35, NKJV)
  - d. The church was feeding and taking care of the widows.
- II. ***Second shift* was when deacons tried to become administrators instead of ministers—they lost the original intent of deacons.**
  - a. The people no longer sold their possessions and gave them to the leaders of the church.
  - b. The church was growing so fast it was no longer a group of people in Jerusalem, but a movement all over the world.
  - c. They did not have a church manual—they did not ever have a bible.
  - d. What started as a biblical principle in many cases turn out to be unbiblical traditions.
  - e. Pastors and leaders are to be equipping the people to do the work of the ministry. (Ephesians 4:11-12, NKJV)
  - f. The original intent of deacons was to be ministers not administrators.
  - g. The Holy Shift was when the church shifted from feeding the widows to allowing the government to take that position.
  - h. The Widows that were to be taken care of. (1 Timothy 5:3-4, NKJV; 1 Timothy 5:3-4, NLT2)
- III. ***Third shift* was getting back to biblical principles. (Ephesians 4:11-12, NKJV)**
  - a. Pastors are to equip members to do the work of the ministry.
  - b. The reason God's blessing Journey Church in such a mighty way is because our members are doing the work of the ministry.

#### **IV. Insights to the Holy Shift in the church.**

- a. Healthy churches grow. (Acts 6:1-2, NCV)
  - i. Growth = Change; Change = Loss; Loss = Pain; – Growth = Pain.
- b. Church growth causes problems. (Acts 6:1-2, NCV)
  - i. To determine if someone is a concerned or a complainer check the condition of their heart. (Matthew 6:21, NKJV)
- c. Almost all problems are a result of unmet needs or expectations. (Acts 6:1-2, NCV; Acts 6:3-4, NCV; Acts 6:5, NCV; NKJV)