

**April 16, 2023**  
**Acts 6:1-7;**  
**“Culture Clash”**

### **PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION**

Qualifications for those serving:

1. Men who are a part of the congregation itself, choose 7 of them for leadership.
2. Men of good reputation, good examples to follow, qualified spiritually, men of integrity, above reproach, able to “be entrusted” with the business of the church.
3. Full of the Holy Spirit-yielded to the Spirit’s control in every area of life.
4. Wise, possessing knowledge, good at practical skills, men of good judgment who understand the times, see **I Chronicles 12:32**, “From the tribe of Issachar, there were 200 leaders of the tribe with their relatives. All these men understood the signs of the times and knew the best course for Israel to take.” (NLT)

Still at work within the body of believers, the enemy discovered a chink in the armor of the church. There was some division and dissension, internal conflict. It is hard to be productive doing the Lord’s work when the church is divided. Deal with conflict.

A problem arose, some of the Hellenistic Jewish widows were being neglected. This disruption of unity within the church resulted in the entire congregation being assembled to work out a viable solution. The 12 had the “calling” of leading the church in prayer and ministry of the Word among the flock. These tables of distribution were being used by the enemy to cause trouble. The 12 apostles primary responsibility was to meet the people’s spiritual needs. The physical needs were important too, they chose to get help meeting those physical needs. Administration is begun in the church.

The whole group made the selection. Next their instillation. The apostles confirmed their selection by the laying on of hands. Think about how Moses acted similarly by confirming Joshua, **Numbers 27:16-23**. It is estimated that the church now consisted of 20-24k followers of Jesus.

**Application:**

In the Jerusalem church a problem arose. The whole church was addressed and involved in the process of bringing about a solution. The spiritual leaders laid hands of approval on the chosen servants and were instantly freed to go back to the work of the ministry. The 12 shared/distributed the Bread of Life and the 7 the sustenance/bread of life. This is an excellent example of order and problem solving within the church.