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will surely wear yourselves out. For this thing is too much for you; you are not able to perform it by yourself” (Exodus 18:17–18). That same issue resurfaced in the early church. As needs increased, the apostles realized they couldn’t meet every demand themselves, so they called for others to step in and take ownership of the work (Acts 6:1–7). Like Moses, some of us may be carrying too much because we haven’t asked for help. The solution wasn’t “try harder”; it was “bring more people in.” More hands. More hearts. More members doing what God equipped them to do.

In the early church, we see what it looked like when it worked: “Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need” (Acts 2:44–45). Ministry wasn’t reserved for leaders; it was shared by the whole church—each person present, supplying what the Spirit gave.

We’re not all called to do the same thing, but we are all called to do something. “We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy . . . if it is serving, then serve . . .” (Romans 12:6–8 NIV). No one is meant to sit back and spectate.

When no one steps up, the body shifts, strains, and limps. People get overextended, others go unseen, and the church, instead of growing stronger, starts trying to survive on partial strength.

This isn’t just about “helping out.” It’s about honoring Christ as the head of the church by responding to His design. Because when you don’t respond, something He intended doesn’t move.

So don’t just ask, “Is the church struggling?” Ask, “What part am I playing to help it thrive?” There’s a space in the body that only you can fill. And if you’ve been unsure where you fit or have quietly stepped back, maybe now’s the time to step forward. The church doesn’t need more heroes, but it does need every member. And it needs what God gave you.



Vol. 34 No. 4

January 25, 2026

## When Too Few Carry Too Much

Some churches are gasping for air—not because God isn’t present, but because too few are supplying what He gave them. Ask around, and you’ll hear the same pattern: A handful of people are carrying most of the weight. A couple of faithful servants are stretched thin—doing, planning, praying, giving, stepping in where others won’t. They’re not complaining, but they’re worn. And the body they’re part of isn’t thriving—it’s just trying to hold itself together.

Paul says the church is a body “joined and knit together by what every joint supplies,” and when each part works properly, the whole body grows (Ephesians 4:16). But when parts stop moving, the rest can’t function as God designed. The body becomes overworked and, eventually, unhealthy.

This isn’t a new problem. Even in the Old Testament, we see what happens when ministry is left to a few. Moses was burning out, trying to carry everything alone, until his father-in-law stepped in with wisdom: “The thing that you do is not good. Both you and these people who are with you

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Phil Degelia  
Tim Simmons

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Jeff Kiel  
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(Benevolence)  
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