Just Do Something

Acts 9:26-31

“Just do something”; “we have to fix this….do something”;” how could something like this happen? We have to do something”; “this ain’t right…we have to fix this”.

How many times have we heard statements like this when a problem arises, or something goes wrong? Quite often, I’m sure! There’s lots of situations where things happen that cause problems. There’s a new process, or there is some type of change (people in general do no like change) that causes ripples in what is normal, or traditional, or “this is what we have always done, so why change it now?”

The reality of life here, is that change, and chaos are part of life. We don’t get to live trouble free until we join our Savior in heaven. Until then, we must live in the whirlwind of change and chaos. So, what do we do? How do we handle things that cause chaos and disruption? First off, we just can’t ignore it. Ignoring a problem or change usually ends up making the situation worse. Just doing “something” usually has the same results of making the situation worse. What we should do is the right something. How do we do that? Follow the leadership of our Lord.

Our scripture tells the story of Paul wishing to join the disciples in Jerusalem. Paul (Saul) had been in Damascus teaching and preaching, after his conversion on the Road to Damascus, and spending more than three years communing with the Lord in Arabia. Scripture tells us that the disciples in Jerusalem did not want to meet with Paul, due to his former life. Thank goodness for Barnabas (v27), who stood up for Paul in front of the disciples and told Paul’s story and vouched for him. Then, Paul was able to join the disciples (church) in Jerusalem, and he began to fellowship and do his calling in Jerusalem. Everything worked out, right?

Not so fast! There were members of the church that were not happy with Paul joining in with them. In fact, they were so passionate about Paul not being with them, they planned to kill him (v29). So, the church had a problem, a big problem. They had a problem they had to fix and fix fast.

What did they do? They came together to come up with a solution. They sent Paul out of town to Ceasara, and eventually to his home of Tarsus. The scripture doesn’t tell us they prayed and sought council with God for a solution, but I am pretty sure they did because of the results that are shared in verse 31; “Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria and were edified……”. Sounds like they did something right.

We should take a lesson from the early church when we are faced with disruption to our life. Commune with the Lord to be sure your solution is the right “something” to do.

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