

Faith and Action By Randy Henson

This is a very exciting time in our LIFE

Acts 22 (Paul is telling a story about something that happened in His life)

“Brothers and esteemed fathers,” Paul said, “listen to me as I offer my defense.” When they heard him speaking in their own language, the silence was even greater. Then Paul said, “I am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, and I was brought up and educated here in Jerusalem under Gamaliel. As his student, I was carefully trained in our Jewish laws and customs. I became very zealous to honor God in everything I did, just like all of you today. And I persecuted the followers of the Way, hounding some to death, arresting both men and women and throwing them in prison. The high priest and the whole council of elders can testify that this is so. For I received letters from them to our Jewish brothers in Damascus, authorizing me to bring the Christians from there to Jerusalem, in chains, to be punished. “As I was on the road, approaching Damascus about noon, a very bright light from heaven suddenly shone down around me. I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?’ ““Who are you, lord?’ I asked. “And the voice replied, ‘I am Jesus the Nazarene, the one you are persecuting.’ The people with me saw the light but didn’t understand the voice speaking to me.

I asked, ‘What should I do, Lord?’

Paul’s question “What should I do, Lord?” changed the rest of His (and our) life!

In every believer’s life there is an “AHA!” moment (successful)

My goal today is to get you to say
“What should I do, Lord?”

This could be your AHA! moment

Start somewhere

We really need to “DO” something

“Do you really believe that what you believe is really real?”

James 2

What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don’t show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone?... So you see, faith by itself isn’t enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.

What can you do?

Wednesday there were 130 workers

There will be somewhere in the area of 500 adults in church today...

I can’t work with kids because _____.

6 Months

Dedication

You have to agree to give up some of your liberties for the sake of serving

Illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco, immoral sexual activity

We are not trying to legislate your behavior, you are free to do whatever you want

Where our spiritual authority can have a negative influence on our kids there are certain behaviors that are detrimental to spiritual growth

If you are engaged in any of this, you are in the right church!

You may have to stop something in order to start something...

I have never met anyone who has regretted it.

What should I do, Lord?

Daniel

Daniel 6:4-5

Then the other administrators and high officers began searching for some fault in the way Daniel was handling government affairs, but they couldn't find anything to criticize or condemn. He was faithful, always responsible, and completely trustworthy. So they concluded, "Our only chance of finding grounds for accusing Daniel will be in connection with the rules of his religion."

Why was Daniel looked upon favorably?

Why was he a man of integrity?

Why was there no corruption found in him?

Why did the king promote him in his leadership?

Why did God show favor upon Daniel in the lion's den and deliver him?

Why did it seem like Daniel always knew what God wanted him to do?

Because years ago, Daniel made a decision to start doing something that made him into the man of integrity that he became

Daniel 6:10

But when Daniel learned that the law had been signed, he went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with its windows open toward Jerusalem. He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to his God.

"Just as he had always done..."

"What should I do, Lord?"

Daniel would stop what he was doing 3 times a day and start praying

Aligning his heart with God

When our hearts line up with His we are changing into the image of Christ

What He calls evil we see as evil, what He calls good we see as good

There is something deeper going on

When your heart changes, your actions should automatically change

Maybe your heart needs to change on your finances

Start a discipline today

FPU

In 5 years you will look back and say “that was my AHA! Moment”

21% of the church tithing?!?!

Maybe your heart needs to change about serving

Today you grab a worker application and ask “What should I do, Lord?”

The buildings are full of people

We will not be entrusted by God with even 1 more kid than we are equipped to handle!

Plenty of kids out there in need of you

What do you need to start?