



“BREAKING TRADITIONS”

Acts 6:8-15/Acts 7:44-60 - May 24, 2015

Message 2 of 3 in the Sermon Series “Do Something: Fulfilling God’s Purpose for Your Life”

In Acts 6 the ministries didn’t _____¹ the church anymore – too many people were coming and not enough people were helping.

A MAJOR shift in ministry in the church: **Anybody who saw a need and could help meet that need was welcome to join the ministry team!**

Breaking Traditions:

1. People serving people got _____² attention. v. 8

Stephen’s ministry was to make sure that Greek-speaking, Greek-cultured _____³ were being fed.

QUESTION: Can simply helping someone be seen as a great wonder or a sign?

Jesus said that 2 things in life are more important than everything else: [cf. **Matthew 22:36-40**]

1. Love _____⁴.
2. Love _____⁵.

FACT: People helping people gets people’s attention!

2. People are opposed to _____⁶ the way it’s always been done. v. 9-14

When the place and the customs become more important than the _____⁷, you’ve lost sight of God’s mission.

• **“against Moses/the Law”** – The Old Testament Law and it’s requirements to _____⁸ to God.

• **“this holy place”** – The _____⁹ in Jerusalem.

• **“customs Moses handed down”** – _____¹⁰ in it’s prescribed form.

The church’s message that following _____¹¹ was all that you needed did indeed de-value the importance of the above things as of utmost importance spiritually.

3. The leaders in the early church fought and died to _____¹² ministry so they could _____¹³ ministry. **Acts 7:44-60**



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3. The leaders in the early church fought and died to _____¹² ministry so they could _____¹³ ministry. **Acts 7:44-60**

Stephen died _____¹⁴ his right, the church’s right, and Jesus’ message that everybody who followed Jesus could **DO SOMETHING** for God and for others.

Christians serving people through Jesus’ church became the _____¹⁵ New Testament message of Saul...err Paul.

Ephesians 2:8-10 —“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God ⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

If you are a Christian, you’ve been _____¹⁶ to **DO SOMETHING** for Jesus, and it’s time to take your next step in your spiritual development.

If Jesus is in your life, then you will _____¹⁷ in what he’s calling you to do.

1 John 4:4 —“You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.”

Nobody can do everything...everybody can “**Do** _____¹⁸”.

ADDITIONAL NOTES: _____

Answers: ¹¹fit, ¹²people’s, ¹³widows, ¹⁴God, ¹⁵people, ¹⁶changing, ¹⁷purpose, ¹⁸connect, ⁹temple, ¹⁰Judaism, ¹¹Jesus, ¹²decentralize, ¹³maximize, ¹⁴defending, ¹⁵dominant, ¹⁶created, ¹⁷succeed, ¹⁸Something



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