



Director's Corner

September 8, 2020

I was recently in the grocery store and met an employee who reminded me that I had not sent something inspirational to staff for a while, and she missed it. I had been thinking about sharing this and her reminder prompted me to actually do so. This interaction was a reminder to me that staff need encouragement and to know they are appreciated. This is what I shared with our staff:

Yesterday in church, a man gave me a small devotional book. It was given to his father at Christmas in 1942. His father was in the Army as a medic. I am pretty sure that is because he signed up as a “noncombatant” and was assigned as a medic. This is someone who was willing to serve his country when drafted but did not think he should carry weapons or take a life. His father was one of the most gentle and meek men I knew. I tried to picture him in battle, but I can't picture it. He said his father carried the devotional during the Battle of the Bulge, one of the famous battles of World War II. I tried to picture him as a young man in the midst of war, caring for the wounded. I am moved to have his book.

When I got home, I opened it to the devotion for August 2. It was written by the pastor of Trinity Methodist Church in Los Angeles. He told the story of a young man who played in the Rose Bowl. He had gotten confused and ran the wrong way. It doesn't say if he had the football or not, but he was so embarrassed that he left the field and went to the locker room. It describes him as “suffering in the agony of his terrible blunder.” The coach came in and said, “Roy, get up! You are going out on the field to play again. The game isn't over.”

There are several examples in the Bible of people that felt like they failed, felt that they weren't good enough or just plain didn't want to do what God called them to. God told them to get back up and go. Their “game” wasn't over. In the confusion of the present times, we are all making mistakes. We need to be patient with each other. We need to be patient with public health leaders who change their minds, coworkers who make mistakes, leadership who make a decision and then change it, and we need to be patient with ourselves when we get tired, scared, stressed or just make a mistake. If we quit when we make mistakes, there will be none left to serve.

We need to encourage each other. “Get back up, the game isn't over.” You are still needed to serve in whatever way God has called and blessed you to serve.

I think this is a timely message for all of us wherever we are being used. For the most recent updates regarding our residents and staff, please see the [News page](#) on our website.

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