

“Oh My, What Will We Do?”

Do you have thoughts or questions which are regular patrons in the café of your mind? One that makes me want to put out the “Closed” sign every time I see it coming down the sidewalk is the one in our above title.

The last time it swaggered in and ordered a super-sized portion of my time and energy was about two weeks ago. I began thinking about our youth pastor search process and what would happen if we do not have someone in place by July. I began to think about what would happen to our youth and the families of our youth if we don’t have someone sooner rather than later. Before you could say, “It’s closing time!” he had taken his place and would not release his grip on the booth where he had planted his large frame.

“Oh-my-what-will-we-do?” can never even make it through the front door unless he has help, so this freeloader never travels without his friend, “It’s-all-up-to-me”. By himself he’d never get the door opened. But with his side-kick it’s a snap.

There are always others who travel with this troublesome duo. This time it was “What-will-our-youth-do-without-a-youth-pastor?” and “Their-future-depends-on-it!”. The foursome was almost impossible. Their raucous behavior ran off all the other customers.

I probably never would have convinced them to leave had it not been for someone else walking through the door—the one with nail scars in his wrists. He used His Word to do it:

For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him. ⁶He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken. ⁷On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God. ⁸Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us. -Psalm 62:5-8

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. -John 15:5

And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. -Philippians 4:19

I will never leave you nor forsake you. -Hebrews 13:5b

It’s funny, but once they were gone, I felt lonely. “Jesus,” I asked, “I don’t like those customers, but they were the only ones I had; do you think I’ll be o.k. without them?” “Yes!” he exclaimed, “for I will be with you and I will provide for you. I am enough!”

I am not sure if you ever have “Oh-my-what-will-we-do?” visit the booths of your heart along with his friends; but if you have, remember that the savior, our hope, and our confidence are not self, others, or even a youth pastor for our teens. It is Christ. Let’s invite Him to come on in, take a seat, and make Himself at home for the long haul.