

Where's Your Chair?

Acts 15 30-41



Behold how good and pleasant it is to dwell together in unity.
It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down upon the beard,
Even on Aaron's beard, running down upon the collar of his clothing.
Psalm 133:1-3

Praising:

Bind us all as one together
in your Church's sacred fold,
weak and wealthy, poor and
healthy,
sad and joyful, young and old.
Is there want, or pain, or sorrow?
Make us all the burden share.
Are there spirits crushed and
broken?
Teach us, Lord, to soothe their
care.

Reading:

Acts 15:30-41
The decision is delivered to
Antioch

Joy greets the news that
circumcision will not be required
for Gentile converts. The place of
the Gentile Christians has been
not just officially recognised by
the Church in Jerusalem, but

accepted, embraced and formally
regulated for. Newcomers Judas
and Silas receive the welcome
which bearers of glad tidings
might expect, but when the dust
settles on the episode and the
guests have gone home, there is
a painful parting of the ways to
follow. As Barnabas and Paul
plan a return journey to see how
the new communities of
Christians which they have
founded are getting on, Barnabas
wants to take a disciple who had
previously deserted them in
Pamphylia called John Mark.
Paul is not prepared to trust him
again and while it turns out that
Mark does redeem himself, the
breach between Paul and
Barnabas is never healed.

Listening:

Praying:

Lord bless relationships in your
Church

- that humility, grace and
service would characterise all
we say and do
- that differences of opinion and
personality would not be
wedges of division and
disunity
- that we would see those we
struggle to love as brothers
and sisters for whom Christ
died

Father: I pray for a readiness to
see fault in myself rather than
others, for the modesty to admit I
might be wrong rather than right,
and for the love of Jesus who
died for me in my sin. Amen

Doing:

Wednesday, 01 June 2016