

Question: I know that an office worker has been stealing from the company. Should I say something? The company is going bankrupt anyway.

Assuming that you have accurate information which can be documented, you could give that information to the proper company authorities. Consider the possibility that such information might prevent the company from going bankrupt and save the jobs of their employees. In the process, there is always the possibility that you can turn around the life of the unwise office worker. However, there can be difficult situations which “whistleblowers” may encounter. Such a decision has to be made carefully considering the good of the workers and company, as well as oneself (Philippians 2:4).

I realize that some people may think: “I’ll be out of here in a few weeks. Why should I care? Besides, if I say anything I may have to go into court and a lot of people will be upset.” Or others might say, “They won’t listen to me anyway?” However, Jesus taught, “So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you” (Matthew 7:12). In fact, the apostle Paul provides an excellent example of this teaching. He had been falsely accused in Jerusalem and placed under arrest. When Paul’s life was threatened by his fellow Jews, Roman officials transported him to Caesarea. From there he was carried as a prisoner on board a ship to stand trial before the emperor in Rome. The long journey by sea was plagued with great hazards for all on board the ship. Although Paul had nothing to gain by warning anybody of anything, he spoke up for the good of all who were on the ship (Acts 27:11). Of course, he knew that God could rescue him from all dangers; yet he reached out beyond his own interests and safety and spoke up for the safety of others.

In today’s world, people can find themselves in situations which challenge their integrity and tempt them to compromise their standards. Yet, all we need for evil to prevail is for good and honest people to remain silent. We should never be mean-spirited in any action we take (Romans 12:21). On the contrary, by having the attitude of Jesus we can make a difference in our world for the good of all concerned. Following Jesus in life is not always easy or popular, but it is the right thing to do. I hope that you will pray about this problem and take some positive actions before the situation reaches the point of no return for your company. I do believe

that is what Jesus would do.

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