

# Moving Ahead

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To those that dare to dream  
To those that hunger for more  
To those that are willing to pay the price

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# Introduction

What do I take and what do I leave behind - a question that is forced upon each of us when we are found in the place of moving. Generally, we don't like moving. We are nesters by nature but there comes a time in everyone's life when we will be faced with a move.

Our spiritual journey is much the same. Again I say, we are nesters by nature. We like things that are familiar and the same; this brings comfort to us. Eventually the time comes when that comfort is not enough and we find that things are feeling tight. So we try to rearrange the furniture and tell ourselves that we have more room but sooner or later the stark reality hits us; my spiritual home is too small, I have no room to grow.

Now we are faced with the big questions: How do I grow? How do I move? The answer is a simple one but at the same time this simple answer can be very challenging. To move ahead in life one must be willing to move a head and the head you must move is yours.

Throughout the scriptures we see over and over again that the greatest challenge that any person had was to believe. To believe what God said, to not only acknowledge what He said but to do it, to walk it out. Now, this creates a problem. You see to walk something out usually requires that we understand what we are doing but this is not the case with God. God lives and exists just outside of our understanding. Therefore to walk with God requires us to walk by faith and not by sight or understanding.

At this point I think it would be wise to bring some insight as to how my head works. I happen to be one of those people who looks at something and sees it a little different than others will. First of all, I am not trying to buck the system but my vantage point often gives me a different perspective on things. I am not trying to say that I am right and you are wrong. What I am saying is that I tend to see the same thing that you see just in a different way. Let me give you an example: I drive a 1989 Toyota pickup truck. This truck of mine is custom outfitted with faded and bubbled paint, rust holes in the fenders that I could fit my arm through, scratches and dents scattered over the entirety of the body. Oh! Did I mention that it was the last of that model to have a carburetor? The unique quality of this is that I get to pump the gas pedal 5 or 6 times in the morning in order for my truck to start. When people see me driving my truck they may ask the question "Why would he drive such a vehicle? It's just an old beater that should be taken off the road." When I get into my truck the universe aligns itself properly and everything in life is good. I love my truck. I love driving my truck. I love pumping the gas pedal 5 or 6 times to start it in the morning. I love that I don't have to worry about a scratch on the paint which means my truck has the potential to go where a newer fancy truck wouldn't dare. It is all perspective.

Perhaps this will help you understand me a little bit more. I am a “Trekkie” of sort, that is to say I am an avid fan of Star Trek. No I don’t go to Star Trek conventions or wear costumes and pretend that I am Spock but I can split my fingers in the traditional Vulcan gesture when I say to someone, “Live long and prosper.” Perhaps what endears me to the original series the most is the interaction of two individuals: Kirk and Spock. These two men together represent the human condition and the struggles that we have within us. On the one hand we have a Vulcan whose life’s journey is to master the art of logic; to set aside emotions which can deflect from life’s intended purposes. Then we have a seemingly rebellious human who craves adventure without concern of cost but, in fact, is willing to experience the adventure at nearly any cost. I have found the key to life is to take the best of Spock and the best of Kirk because together they accomplish so much more.

Isaiah 54:2 tells us to expand our tents and fasten our pegs. I believe that God is telling us to expand the capacity of our thinking and hold on to that expansion lest it retract. Throughout the Bible we see God purposing to take mankind further in this life, to move us forward but too often we see that mankind was unable to expand his thinking to follow God and this was considered unbelief.

"Space, the final frontier. These are the voyages of the starship Enterprise. Its five-year mission: to explore strange new worlds, to seek out new life and new civilizations, to boldly go where no man has gone before." - James T. Kirk

Now let me rephrase that in the “Mike” translation.

Spirit, the final frontier. These are the voyages of the spiritually hungry. Their continuing mission: to explore uncharted territory of the mind, to seek out new life in the Christ, to boldly go where no one has dared gone before!

Well, there it is, an explanation of my wiring system. This way of thinking has gotten me into a heap of trouble on different occasions but ultimately it has opened the doors to the massive expanse and bigness of my heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ. It can also help you to see some things in a different light and perhaps open the door to the greater reality of the Christ and how that pertains to your everyday life. I think the big question is: Are you hungry enough? Hungry people are willing to do things that the comfortable are not. Remember that which our Lord spoke over two thousand years ago, “Those that hunger and thirst for righteousness will be satisfied” (Mt 5:6). So, if you are one of the hungry ones then I suggest you buckle your seat belt and hang on for we are about to start a journey.

# Chapter 1

## Starting a Journey

To start a journey it is imperative that one has the necessary equipment to travel and proper knowledge of how to use that equipment. This spiritual journey requires a certain process and a proper understanding of how to use the provided tools. I call these tools the four corners of the universe. These four corners are the 'how to' of processing and to omit one would greatly handicap your ability to move ahead into a healthy Christ reality. The four corners of the universe are as follows:

1. Being
2. Thinking
3. Speaking
4. Doing

Everything starts with being, this is the essence of identity or who I am. When I was in junior high school, in grade 8, I began taking French. I find it interesting that the first thing we learned was the verb *être* or *to be* and the first phrase we learned was *Je suis* or, in English, *I am*. The process of learning or expanding one's capacity to think begins with I am. I find it even more interesting that in Exodus chapter 3 when Moses met God face to face and asked Him His name, God replied by saying, "I Am." This is the foundation of all understanding. Too often people focus on who they are not instead of who they are. This kind of thinking only enslaves people and keeps them living in fear. Remember, when you know who you are then you are no longer afraid of who you are not.

I grew up in the sixties and seventies. This means I grew up with late 60's and 70's music. This era of music produced songs with challenging thoughts to say the least. A common thread I found in the music was the questioning of the status quo: Why is this so? Why must we do it that way? What does that have to do with me? Through all these songs I would dig deeper and deeper into my heart, searching for answers but not really knowing the question. Then in the late 70's a band called Supertramp released its new album called *Breakfast in America*. Now, I must confess that I was a Supertrampaholic. That is to say that I had all of their albums, even the first two which in my opinion were less than exemplary. But in 1978 with the release of *Breakfast in America* came a hit single "The Logical Song". I loved that song because I could relate to it and it finally gave me the question that I was seeking after. Let me sing a portion of the song to you. Ready? "There are times when all the world's asleep / The questions run too

deep / For such a simple man / Won't you please, please tell me what we've learned / I know it sounds absurd / Please tell me who I am.”

Finally I had the question I was seeking. You might think this sounds rather odd, seeking a question, but how can you find the answer until you first know the question? So now I have no answer but at least I have the question. The question is the starting point for all of us. It is the question that produces hunger, and hunger opens our minds to consider things we don't fully understand.

Moving on. In August, 1981, I had an encounter with God. It was a Sunday morning at the 108 Chapel and Pastor Bob Teal was ministering. Wait a minute, let me back up a bit. The first question that one should ask is, “What the heck were you doing in a church service?” Good question, I am glad you asked that question and I will attempt to answer it the best I can. You see I was 21 years old and my fiancé and I, at that time, were wanting to get married. The problem was that both our parents wanted us to be married in a church. To get married in a church required that we have some pre-marital meetings with the pastor. Why was that a problem? Well, frankly, I hated religion or, should I say, I hated the hypocrisy that I saw over the years and what it did to people but, I needed to work this out so I decided the best way was to pretend that I was a Christian and meet with the pastor. Now if I was going to meet with the pastor it would probably look good if we went to the Sunday service (pretending to be Christians and all). So that Sunday morning we entered the service and I must say it was quite different from the Catholic Church I was raised in. The music was upbeat and I found myself clapping my hands and singing along. Then came the time for Pastor Bob to speak. Now I must confess that I don't remember much of what he said but I will never forget what happened to me that day. I was sitting in this nice padded pew listening to what was being said. Then all of a sudden I felt someone or some ones lifting me up under my armpits. Now the problem was that there was no one touching me, yet still I found myself being lifted up so I did the logical thing that one would do in that situation. I grabbed the seat of the pew and with all my might I hung on. My butt had lifted off the seat and was in the air but I was still holding on. By now fear and trepidation had hit me. My heart started racing and sweat was forming at the crest of my hairline. Then all of a sudden it left me and my seat re-established itself with the pew. What had just happened? Was I going crazy? Was this some drug flashback from previous years? Well whatever it was, it was over. As we were leaving the service Pastor Bob was standing at the back of the auditorium shaking hands with each person as they left. When my turn came he asked me, “So, Mike, what did you think of the service?” Still shaken by my lifting encounter I replied, “It scared the hell out of me,” to which he replied, “Praise the Lord!” I gave him a strange look, smiled and quickly left the building.

Now if you think that sounded crazy, what was even crazier is that I went back next Sunday! Perhaps I was a sucker for punishment but I knew that I would have to see this thing through if we were going to get married in that church. So the next Sunday started similar to the previous, I found myself again clapping my hands to the music and enjoying the service. Then came time

for Pastor Bob to give his message. I was enjoying what he had to say though I really didn't understand what he was talking about but he had an energy about him and his face was always full of expression. I liked that and I liked him; I thought that he was cool for a minister, especially when he told me that in his pre Christ days he was a member of a street gang called the Falcons. So, anyways, there I sat enjoying the moment when again the two invisible guys decide it's time to pick me up. One under each arm, my butt once again is airborne, my hands gripping the pew for dear life. Then, it happened, I could hold on no longer. Before I knew it I was on my feet and I found myself running to the podium with tears streaming down my face. Why am I crying and why am I running up to the front? Then, I noticed that I was not the only one up there, many others were up there with me and some of them were also crying. Had they had the encounter with the two invisible guys? Maybe there are more invisible guys that I don't know about. Either way, I found myself repeating some prayer that Pastor Bob was reciting and afterwards, standing there in snot and tears, I was told that I am born again and Jesus now lives in me.

After I got outside the building I asked myself, "What just happened?" but I had no answer. I knew that something profound had happened, I just wasn't sure what that was. What this did for me was to start me on a journey, a journey of discovery of an identity found in God through Christ Jesus.

You see, to truly know who you are you first have to discover who you were made to be. I don't know if you realize this but the Bible is a book of identity. The more you discover who God is, the more you discover who you are. Genesis 1:27 tells us that God created us in His image and according to His likeness. The word image can mean image reflection, like in a mirror. You are the image reflection of God in the earth. I like to say it this way: when you look in the mirror you should see God because when God looks in the mirror He sees you! Often our problem is that when we look in a mirror we see who we are not instead of who we are but who we are can only be found in our creator. In Christendom it is generally accepted that Jesus Christ was the manifestation of God in the flesh. God revealed Himself through humanity. He revealed Himself through a man who was born of a woman but conceived by the Holy Spirit. So if you want to understand who God is you can get a picture of that identity through the life of Jesus. Remember that Jesus Himself said in John 14, "If you have seen Me, you have seen the Father; if you have heard My words then you have heard the words of My Father."

Now, here is where it gets interesting. We know that Jesus Christ was the manifestation of God in the earth but who are we? Ephesians 4 tells us that we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ. Ephesians 5 tells us that Christ is the head of the church and the Savior of the body. Are we not the body of Christ? Are we not the church? Jesus is the head of the Christ and we are the body of the Christ. Together we make up the image of God in the earth. Jesus tells us what to do because He is the head and we do the work because we are the body. What am I saying? Whoever Jesus is, we are. Whatever Jesus did, we can do and more.

Perhaps this will help. I am a hockey fan and I can remember the golden goal in Vancouver in 2010 at the Winter Olympics. Sidney Crosby scored the winning goal in overtime to give Canada the gold medal in Men's Hockey. After the game they interviewed Sidney and congratulated him on the victory. Thinking back to that interview I find it amazing that the camera was pointed at his head; all the credit was given to his head. In fact the Gold medal was placed over his head. Did his head skate up the ice? Was it his head that took the shot that found the back of the net? No, it was his body, but the head got the credit. The body did all the work, taking instruction from the head. If the camera was pointing at his legs we might not have recognized him. This is because identity comes from the head.

Look at your driver's license. This is what we often use as a form of identity. Take note of the picture, I don't see any legs, I don't see any hands, all I see is a head. Why? Well, it is because identity is found in the head. As it is in the natural so it is in the spirit. Our natural identity is found in our head and our spiritual identity is found in our spiritual head, Jesus Christ.

So now that we know who our head is and that the head is where we find identity, it stands to reason that our identity is found in Jesus Christ and whatever the Bible says about Jesus it is also saying the same about you and me. This is so because we are one in the Christ. Together Jesus and humanity make up the Christ and the Christ is the manifestation of God in the earth.

Now you can see that to move ahead you have to literally move your head to a place that it has not been before. This is expanding the tent of your thinking. But be careful here; it is one thing to expand your thinking and it is another to keep it that way. This is why Isaiah told us to fasten the tent pegs. If you don't fasten your tent pegs the tent will retract and become small again. We fasten our tent pegs by the continuation of the expansion of our tent. You see in life you are either going forward or going backward. There is no such thing as standing still in one place.

1 Thessalonians 5 tells us that God makes us holy in every way and that our entire spirit, soul and body be preserved blameless. Take note of the order: spirit first, then soul, then body. It has often been said that you are a spirit, you have a soul and you live in a body. Our true identity is found in the spirit. This is because we are a spirit being first. We are the reflection of the face of God and John 4 tells us that God is a spirit and those that worship Him must do so in spirit and in truth. We don't worship God out of our natural identity but we worship Him in the truth of our identity, in the spirit which is found in Christ Jesus.

To touch on this from a practical standpoint we can look at Galatians 5:22-23. Here we see the fruit of the Spirit which is the character and nature of the Christ. Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control are the manifestations of the character of Christ. From what we have learned we can now see that if God is love and I am His image reflection then I am love. I am also joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Note that I don't have love, I am love. This is very important because if I have something then I can lose it but if I am love then that is part of who I am made to be and that I cannot lose. By the grace of God I have everything. The cross of Christ, the

blood of Jesus, completed everything. So much so that on the cross Jesus declared, "It is finished," it is completed. There is nothing you can do to get anything and you have had it for over 2,000 years. Now, you may have it but are you experiencing it? Christianity is the journey of discovery of that which we already have and, as we discover what we already have, then we are given the opportunity to experience it.

Perhaps it's time for another story. As I stated earlier I grew up in the sixties and seventies. Now this means that the sitcoms of the mid-60's had a great influence in my developmental years. One particular show that had immense influence in my spiritual journey was *The Beverly Hillbillies*. You may not remember the theme song but I have it embedded in my memory. It talks about the poor mountaineer Jed, who could barely feed his family. One day he was out shooting at some food and struck oil, also known as black gold or Texas tea. Next, it talks about how Jed is a millionaire and song ends with: The kinfolk said "Jed move away from there" / Said "Californy is the place you ought to be" / So they loaded up the truck and they moved to Beverly / Hills that is. Swimmin' pools, movie stars.

Well I don't know about you but I suddenly have the desire to start whittlin' on the front porch or maybe take a dip in the ce-ment pond. Besides all that my point was to set you up for a question, so, here it goes. When did Jed Clampett become a millionaire? This is a question that I love to ask and when I'm speaking at different venues, the congregations are forced to listen to me sing the song before I ask the big question. So again I ask, when did Jed Clampett become a millionaire? If you are like most folks you would say that he became a millionaire when he found the oil. There you go, we just touched on one of the biggest problems in the heads of people today and that problem is small, external thinking. You see, often people are waiting for something to happen, waiting for their ship to come in. Beloved, your ship has been in dock all the time just waiting for you to see it. Jed Clampett struck oil on his own property. Was that oil not always there? Indeed, it was always there waiting to be discovered. So Jed Clampett had always been a millionaire, he just didn't realize it. Again I say, when Jesus died on the cross He said, "It is finished"; everything is done for you. I have done everything for you and now all I require of you is that you believe in that which I have already given you. This is what we call the grace of God. The grace of God is that which was already accomplished on the cross. Now we access that grace with our faith. Our faith is the believing in the grace of God. I have been a millionaire all my life, I just didn't realize it.

The access point. How do I access this reality? Well, everything starts with being. Everything starts with I am. I am love, I am joy, I am rich, I am healed and I am everything that my heavenly Father says about me. Your outer life is not the real you, your inner life is the real you. The bigger your inner life becomes, then in time the bigger your outer life becomes. Remember, faith is choosing to believe what God says about you whether you feel it or not. It does not matter what my head says, what matters is the choices I make. I must decide to believe what God says about me and in doing so I move my head or my thinking forward and this is the start of moving ahead.

# Chapter 2

## Dealing with the Noodle

In the 1999 cult classic *The Matrix* we find a very interesting scene. Did I mention that I love this movie? I have watched it approximately 137 times and each time I watch it I get a deeper understanding of the Christ reality. There is a scene where Neo meets the Oracle for the first time and she tells Neo not to worry about the vase. As she finishes speaking Neo says, “What vase?” then he turns, knocks over the vase and it smashes on the floor. Immediately Neo offers a sincere apology for his actions to which the Oracle replies that he is not to worry about it, she’ll get one of her kids to fix it. Neo then asks, “How did you know?” In a casual manner, while lighting her cigarette, she says, “What’s really going to bake your noodle later on is, would you still have broken it if I hadn’t said anything?” Poor Neo is standing there in a sea of helplessness wondering, what is going on and what just happened?

This sounds like a lot of people I meet when they hear something different than they are accustomed to. For some reason we believe that we have to understand something for it to be true. I believe it goes even deeper than that. I would venture to say that for us to believe something to be true it must be something we can control. That need to control is based on fear and mistrust. Here lies the problem; faith is choosing to believe in what we don’t yet fully understand and choosing to trust God and give up the control.

Romans 12:2 tells us not to be conformed or molded to the external things of this world but rather to be transformed or have our inner life changed by the renewing of our minds, by changing the way we think.

How do you change a society? You change a society by changing the way it thinks. Sounds easy, right? Well, not so fast. To change the way people think takes time and consistency. You have to be in it for the long haul and the results may not show up until after you are long gone. Before you can change a society, you must first be able to change the way you think. I believe that the reason we struggle with this at times is because we are trying to get people to go and do what we ourselves are unwilling to go and do. I believe this with all of my heart and because of that belief, I decided a few decades ago that whatever I teach to people it will always be something I have walked through or am walking through. Remember that the power to influence and bring change is in the life lived. Look at the life of Jesus. In Mark 1 we find Jesus going into the synagogue to teach. In verse 22 we find the people amazed at His teaching because His teaching had authority unlike the teaching of the scribes. You see, the scribes taught from a book, something they intellectually knew but it was not a living reality to them.

Jesus taught from the life He lived so His teaching had the authority to change lives. The Bible also calls this the anointing. Now the anointing is not some pixie dust that falls out of heaven; it is the character and nature of Christ living through the individual. The anointing is not what you do so much as it is who you are.

Before we go any further I feel that this would be the right time to do some baking. Noodles and cheese anyone? I don't mean to taunt but I find that in keeping things on the lighter side we can better travel into the unknown. So in saying that, let us take a look at Genesis 2. Here we find the parable of two trees. Did I say parable? Oops! I forgot to warn you as to how I view the Old Testament. Yes, I believe that it is literal history but at the same time there is a greater truth and the heart of God living under the surface. In the book of Mike it would be said this way: the Old Testament is an external picture of a greater internal reality! So when I read the Old Testament I see the Christ woven all the way through and because I am part of the body of that Christ, I therefore see myself woven all the way through. Back to the trees. In the parable of the two trees we find one tree called the "Tree of Life" and the other is called the "Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil". God told us that we can eat of any tree, just stay away from that Tree of Knowledge, in fact if we eat of its fruit we will surely die. Please note that the word die in this verse speaks of a spiritual death or separation from God. So when we partake of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, we find ourselves separated from God. By the way another word for good and evil is right and wrong, so when we live from the choices of right and wrong we find ourselves separated from God. The Tree of Life on the other hand is the Tree of Christ. So when measuring a situation, how do we decide the path to take? We must take the path that leads to life and not to being right. Choosing right and wrong or good and evil takes us on an external path which leads to pride, judgement and condemnation. Remember that I can speak what is right and bring death to a situation. How about speaking life?! Deuteronomy 30:19 tells us that a choice has been set before us today. That choice is life or death, the blessing or the curse and then God gives us the answer in case we weren't sure which to pick. He said to choose life so you and your children will live. When we choose life we choose the blessing and when we choose right or wrong we choose the curse.

So there we have a fundamental shift in our thinking and yes I know that it can be challenging. I am amazed at the testimonies of individuals when they start to apply this idea to their life. I often hear of the freedom it brings and a greater clarity and understanding of life that evolves.

Now back to the thought life. Thought is the most powerful weapon we have if used properly. Thought is the power of creation and creating. Thought can take us places that otherwise would seem impossible. In quantum physics it is understood that thought is the essence of all things, it is the energy that creates and gives everything its potential. Now if you are up to it I would like to take you back to Genesis 1. Before we go any farther I must warn you that I am about to turn up the heat in the oven. So if you feel you need a time out, now would be a good time.

Feeling better? Good. In Genesis 1 we find God creating the heavens and the earth. Please, take note of verse 2 "and the earth was formless and void". God created the heavens and the earth

but the earth wasn't there. He created the earth but there was no earth. Hello McFly! Did God lie? Was God just having a bad hair day and things weren't working according to plan? Well, here are my thoughts, God knew exactly what He was doing. He created the heavens and the earth in His thoughts; they were there just not in material form. You see the moment God thinks something, it is and when He speaks, it manifests into the natural or seen realm. Quantum physics would tend to support this idea, it would correlate thought and spirit into the same essence. Remember that we are the image reflection of God in the earth and if God creates out of thought then how do you think His offspring creates? There you go. Our thoughts create the life around us. If we have positive thoughts we create positive things and if we have negative thoughts we create negative things. Why was the apostle Paul so adamant when he penned in Philippians 4:8 telling us the things we should be thinking on, things that are true, noble, reputable, authentic, gracious, the best and the beautiful. It is because what you focus on you bring into your life.

You are the creator of your life. By that I mean that what you focus on in your thinking today creates a belief system for your tomorrow. That belief system causes you to speak (remember that words are nothing more than thoughts expressed) and what you speak causes the things you created by thought to manifest. Matthew 6:31 (KJV) says: Therefore take no thought, saying, "What shall we eat?" Saying is a result of a thought we take hold of. Newer translations tell us not to worry, saying, what shall we eat? So worry is taking hold of a thought and making that thought a part of our belief system and as we speak what we are worrying about we empower it to manifest in our lives.

At this point some of you could be feeling a little overwhelmed, perhaps thinking that I may be picking on you a bit. This is not my intention but I must point out that it is time for people to grow up and take responsibility for their lives. A few years back, my wife, Robin, and I were at her parent's place. They had invited us over because some relatives from my father-in-law's side were visiting. Now, my father-in-law, Ken, did not come from a large family, he came from a clan, the DeWalt clan. With my father-in-law being the youngest of 13 you can imagine just how many cousins my wife, Robin, has. At last count I believe it was something like 4,637 cousins. Possibly that is a slight exaggeration on my part but you get the picture. Anyways, we are over there and I am conversing with one of the cousins. He finds out that I am a minister so he starts with the fifty questions. He was trying to figure out Christianity but it was clear previous religious experiences were blocking his path. I finally said to him, "Do you want to know what Jesus' message was all about? It is this: Get over yourself!" Now, that was not the answer he was expecting but it left a profound look of wonder on his face and gave him something to think about.

Get over yourself. What a truth! I often say it this way, "If you want to find out what your problem is, just go look in the mirror." Now before you start jumping down my throat, just wait a minute. Your problem is found in the mirror but so is your answer! It all depends on who you see when you look in the mirror. Remember that you are God's image reflection and what you

see when you look in a mirror will determine what you think about yourself and how you view your life.

I remember back in 2011 I was ministering at a youth conference in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, and I was teaching on identity. During one of the services I had a full body mirror brought up to the platform and instructed all of the young people to line up and come talk to the mirror. The girls were to say to the mirror "I am beautiful" and the guys were to say something like "I am handsome." As this went on I just stood to the side and watched everyone as they walked up to the mirror. I found some amazing things that took place. It seemed that the more make-up a girl was wearing the tougher time she had to say "I am beautiful." In fact some of the girls who were all dolled up would look at the mirror, turn, drop their head and walk away, unable to say a thing. This is a problem! This is a lack of identity! Those girls were seeing who they are not instead of who they are. How can you properly love someone else until you can first love yourself?

You see the problem here is in how we think about ourselves. I believe part of the problem lies in the pulpit. For too long we have taught "sin consciousness" instead of "righteousness consciousness" We have taught who we are not instead of who we are. We need to know who God has already made us to be. The more we know who God has made us to be, the less we will *try* to be good enough for God. Remember the wise words of Yoda, "Do or do not, there is no try." The book of Mike would say, "Be or be not, there is no try." I believe we need more Yodas in the pulpit, building people up and helping us to get past acceptance by performance. We need our minds renewed by the washing of water by the Word of God, we need our thinking transformed to think like God thinks. Yes, to think like God thinks. God wants you to learn to think like He thinks. Look in Isaiah 1:18. Here we see God speaking to the people, asking them to come over and reason with Him, to have a discussion, a dialogue, even an argument. Yes an argument with God. It's healthy and you will always learn something. I like a good argument; "iron sharpens iron" the Scriptures tell us, so why then are we afraid to challenge something? Perhaps it is because we don't know who we are. The more you know who you are, the more you will think like God thinks and the more you think like God thinks then the more you will act like God acts. Then and only then will the words of Jesus start to become a living reality to you and you will find yourself saying, "If you have seen me, you have seen the Father. If you have heard my words then you have heard the words of the Father because the Father and I are one." Now stick that noodle in the oven and bake it. Oh, and don't forget the cheese!

# Chapter 3

## There is No Spoon

Here we go again, back to *The Matrix*. Just prior to the scene with the Oracle we find Neo in the waiting room with the other potentials. As Neo looks around the room he sees different children with various psychic powers. One child in particular catches his attention: a little boy maybe eight or nine years old with a bald head wearing what seems, to me at least, to be the robe of a Buddhist monk. This child is sitting on the floor with six spoons, five spoons are twisted and he is picking up the sixth one to do the same feat. The spoon twists itself around, then straightens itself up abruptly as the boy changes his focus from the spoon to Neo. He passes the spoon to Neo and as Neo is looking at the spoon pondering what just happened, the boy says to Neo “Do not try to bend the spoon, that’s impossible. Instead only try to realize the truth.” Neo interjects, “What truth?” To this, the little boy replies, “There is no spoon.” Neo, holding and looking at the spoon asks, “There is no spoon?” The little boy calmly and methodically explains, “Then you will see that it is not the spoon that bends, it is only yourself.” Neo, with the new information given him, looks at the spoon and the spoon bends according to his belief.

Jesus understood that there is no spoon but He was dealing with a bunch of unbelieving disciples. They did not have the capacity to understand that circumstances are an illusion of the mind so, He met them where they were at and taught them to speak to the circumstances. In Mark 11 we find Jesus saying that if you will speak to the mountain and if you believe in what you are saying then you will have the results you desire. You see, our words are either building a mountain or tearing one down. A mountain is nothing more than a mole hill that you kept speaking over and made into something bigger than it is. I grew up in Richmond, British Columbia, and in Richmond we had moles everywhere. Often, when I would go into our back yard in the morning, I would find a mole hill. A mole hill is nothing more than the soil a mole pushes to the surface as a result of his underground burrowing. Now, as a good Richmondite I knew exactly what to do with that mole hill. Step on it. That’s right, step on it. It will flatten down and life will go on. If that mole hill had magically turned into a mountain then I would greatly struggle in trying to step on it and flatten it. Be careful not to take a mole hill and turn it into a big mountain. Remember that if you have the power to turn a mole hill into a mountain then you certainly have the power to reverse that and have the mountain revert back to a mole hill again. Life is full of circumstances that you have little control over but whether that circumstance is something you simply step on or something that blocks your pathway is entirely up to you and your words.

Words are the building blocks that create the pathways we walk upon. When I was a child one of the toys I loved to play with was my Lego blocks. I would use my imagination and build many different things. One day while studying I found something quite interesting, the word *speak* or *spoke* in the Greek language is *lego*. Just like the building blocks I used to play with, I am still playing with Lego blocks and building things but this time the Lego blocks I am using are my words. I still use my imagination to build my dreams then I use my words to express my dreams and empower them to manifest into my reality. What are your words building? Look at your life, what do you see? When a circumstance arises does it overwhelm you? Do you talk about that problem and make it something bigger than it is? Perhaps you believe that when things happen to you they will always be bad and there is nothing you can do about it. Well I'm here to tell you that you are believing a lie. God created you to succeed. In fact, God created for you the opportunity to succeed in everything you put your hand to. You must choose to believe that and change your language from that of a slave to that of a free person.

The language of a slave is all too evident. First of all the slave lives according to his circumstances and struggles to let go of yesterday. His language is one of, "I can't, it's too hard and if only this hadn't happened to me." A slave struggles in taking responsibility for his life, his problems are always because of what someone else did. When a slave faces the unseen or something new that he doesn't understand, he runs back to the familiar or as the apostle Peter put it, "A dog returns to his vomit." Ouch! Sorry about that, sometimes it just slips out.

The greatest difference between a slave and a free person comes down to choice or the power to choose. You see, a slave does not have the power to choose therefore his choices are made for him by others, he is controlled by the decisions of others. I encounter people like that all the time and I know that I have control over them because all I have to do is say something they don't like and I can make Jack jump out of the box. Their psyche has these bright, red buttons all over them. These are emotional buttons that control the beast within. All I have to do is press one of those bright, red buttons and that green monster called the Hulk manifests, who wants to destroy everything in its path. Now we all know that I am not talking about you. Of course not. I am talking about the other guy or perhaps I am talking about myself. Anyways, I think you get the picture.

Remember that in John 8, Jesus tells us that whom the son sets free is truly free. You are free, the problem lies in the fact that you don't really believe it. Or better put, it is not a reality to you. Knowing what the book says is not good enough (that would qualify you as a scribe). Having the reality of what this means to you is power and not just power for yourself but the ability to empower others or set others free.

Moses had to deal with this with his congregation. Moses had a church of well over a million people. The Bible tells us that out of this bunch of slaves were two free men, Joshua and Caleb. The rest of the people complained about everything, nothing was good enough. In fact they were so negative that they convinced themselves that they had it better in Egypt, under the

whips of their former task masters. King Solomon said it well, “There is nothing new under the sun.” The problems of yesterday are the same problems we have today.

Remember this, those whiny, complaining slaves all died in the wilderness and could not enter the Promised Land. Hebrews 3 tells us that they could not enter because of their unbelief or, their inability to expand their thinking. Their mouths had finally caught up with them. Their words had built a chasm so big that their minds could no longer believe in the possibility of success. James chapter 3 tells us that our tongue is like the rudder on a ship. The rudder is very small in comparison to the ship but that small rudder dictates where the ship will go. So it is with our tongue, it is a small part of the body but it has the power to steer the life of an individual in whatever direction it desires.

Back to the Matrix. Neo is now standing on top of an elevator with Trinity under one arm and a gun in his other hand. He is about to shoot the remaining fixture that is suspending the elevator approximately twenty stories in the air. Just before he shoots we hear him say to himself, “There is no spoon.” Why is this so important? Well it is not only important, it is vital. What are *you* hearing you say? The most important person you must hear is yourself. I think at this time I should tell you something most of you don’t believe. Here it goes. You believe what you say more than you believe any other person on the planet. Well, I don’t believe that! I know you don’t. That is why I said what I said and I know it is true because people do in accordance to what they believe. I watch people in my own congregation who say they believe what I say but they do what they say, they do what they believe. You will believe what you hear yourself saying. If you don’t believe me, I challenge you to put a voice recorder around your neck for a 12 hour period then go back and listen to what you said during the day when you are not focused on what you are saying. I think you will be very surprised by what comes out of your mouth and how it lines up with your life. I know by now that I am probably off the Christmas card list but if somebody doesn’t tell you then how are you to learn?

So there is no spoon. There is no circumstance. There is only the opportunity to grow into the experiential fullness of the Christ and if you will allow yourself to see the truth, then you will find that it is not the spoon or circumstance that is bending but only yourself and your perspective bending.

Let us end this chapter with a scene from *The Matrix* and marinate in the words of the Oracle. “Don’t worry about it. As soon as you step outside that door you’ll start feeling better. You’ll remember that you don’t believe in this fate crap. You’re in control of your own life. Remember? Here, take a cookie. I promise you by the time you’re done eating it you’ll feel right as rain”.

Mmmm, good cookie!

# Chapter 4

## The Little Green Fellow

When one is raised on Star Trek, it is only a natural progression to come to the place of Star Wars. If Star Trek is the trunk of the tree then Star Wars are its branches. Yes, I stood in line in the late seventies to see what Star Wars had to offer and I was not disappointed. One character in the original trilogy that stood out to me was Yoda. This little, green fellow had a way about him. He was not only full of wisdom but he had an uncanny way of presenting truth that would slap you in the face and yet at the same time bring a gentle enlightenment, unfolding in a timely manner in the deepest recesses of your mind.

"Do or do not, there is no try!" These words of Yoda still linger on today and often I am reminded of them when I find myself trying to do or be something. You may ask, "What is so wrong with trying?" I am glad you asked that question and I will do my utmost to answer it in a way that will enlarge your capacity to understand. Trying comes from a standpoint of not sure, not convinced and most likely not committed to (especially if things get a little hard). Whereas do has about it a sense of confidence, assurance and the commitment to see it through no matter how hard it is. People that try something generally find it easy to quit something. People that choose to do something generally have the fortitude to see it through. I know this may seem to be a small thing but in reality it is a very big thing.

Can you imagine meeting someone you want to spend the rest of your life with and saying to them, "Would you like to give marriage a try? Well if it doesn't work then we can just get a divorce." You see, trying generally has a back door just in case things don't work out. What if you were in a car accident and were taken to the hospital emergency room. Do you want a doctor who is going to save your life or a doctor who will give it a try? I don't know about you but I want the person that is committed to the end when it comes to saving my life. Giving it a try is not good enough for me. How about you?

Where did this mindset of try come from? I believe it has unfolded upon us over the centuries through a lack of faith. You see, faith does not try, faith does. Faith is the commitment to see it through. Faith does not trust in one's own ability, faith trusts in God's ability to work through us. I believe that people try because they are not sure if they are able. They are looking at their own ability instead of God's. This is a dangerous place to be. The Bible calls this place unbelief. Unbelief is the world where you have to do it on your own. No one is going to help you, especially not God. I don't know if you have read the book or not but things generally didn't go well for those who lived in unbelief.

James 1 tells us to be doers of the word and not just hearers (or tryers) who deceive themselves. If we are an effectual doer of the Word then we will find ourselves blessed. Nowhere does it say to try something. In fact throughout Scripture there is no promise for the one who tries, only for the one who does. James 2 tells us that faith that has no doing is a dead faith. I would say it this way, faith that is tried is no faith at all. We don't try faith we do faith. Faith is a choice to believe in what God says about us. God says I can do all things in Christ who gives me strength. My faith chooses to believe that whether I feel it or not. Perhaps people who try are looking for an emotional validation of some sorts. If I can feel it then I will keep going on but if I lose that *lovin' feelin now / it's gone, gone, gone/ and I can't go on Woah-oh-oh-oh-oh*. Well *Brothers*, that was quite a *Righteous* thought.

When we omit being, thinking or saying then there is no do, only try. Wow, I think my skin may have turned a little green... focus Mike! Okay. Okay, sorry about that, I was having a moment. But think about what I said, when we omit being, thinking or saying we omit some of the legs that hold the table up. It only takes one leg to be missing and the table will wobble and, if under pressure, could fall. Why do we think that we can live above the table principle? God created the four leg principle or the four corner principle and to omit any of those legs or corners will eventually lead to failure. Remember that when we omit one of the table legs, we instinctively fill that void with something else and that something else is usually emotions. The problem is that emotions were never created to hold up a table.

Doing is also the Biblical process of understanding. People want to understand before they do but God shows us that understanding is the fruit of doing. Doing solidifies our beliefs into our hearts. Doing is the road to understanding. Make sure that before you do, you have the road map called wisdom. Wisdom is the blueprint or the road map. Proverbs 24 tells us that a house is built by wisdom and established or made secure by understanding. First of all, let me say this. Christ Jesus has been made to us wisdom. He is the blueprint or map to start building with. We build by faith or trust and commitment to the blueprint and as we walk this out we find ourselves in a place of understanding. With understanding comes security or establishment. Perhaps the reason why people are so insecure today is because they are unwilling to walk something out that they don't understand or dare I say, have control of. Just a thought! It could be said this way, understanding comes with experience and experience is nothing more than walking out the process of wisdom.

Perhaps this will help. Wisdom is being. I am wisdom. If Christ Jesus has been made to us wisdom and I am part of His body then it only stands to reason that I am wisdom because I am in Him. Now that I know I am wisdom, this will affect how I think. My thoughts will become wiser because I have the mind of Christ. These thoughts in turn will express themselves in my words which will build the road that I walk upon and before I know it my life has changed. It has evolved into something that better reflects the blueprint.

By wisdom a house is built. Are we not the house of God? Are we not the temple or dwelling place of God? Indeed we are and the house that wisdom is building is us. If we will follow the

blueprint then over time we will gain experience or as Scripture calls it, understanding. This understanding takes us to the heavenly place called knowledge. Remember that what Scripture calls knowledge has little to do with information. Knowledge is the intimate relationship between two beings that creates something new. The Bible tells us that Adam knew his wife Eve and they conceived a son, they had created something new and wonderful, they had touched eternal life. Interestingly, in John 17, Jesus tells us that eternal life is to know God or have intimate knowledge of God. Jesus called this, “oneness” that you and I would be one with God just like He was. This is where the expression “seeing God face to face” comes into play. We experience intimacy with God through intimacy with each other. The highest form of human intimacy is expressed through the union of a man and woman through marriage. In fact the physical coming together of a couple sexually is where we see God face to face. The ancient Hebrew belief is that male is one half of God’s face and female is the other half and when they unite together (spirit, soul and body) we then see the fullness of God in the earth. Read Ephesians 5, it speaks of this very truth.

Can you now see that doing is not just doing but a process of building something great? Remember that when one builds, it is important not to take shortcuts because down the road these shortcuts will raise up their ugly heads and the building will never be what it was supposed to be without major renovations that will come at a great price. Back to Yoda, “...if you choose the quick and easy path...you will become an agent of evil.” Evil is nothing more than lifting your way of doing things above God’s way of doing things. This is how Lucifer fell, he believed that he was smarter than God. He believed that his way would work. He believed he could take a shortcut. The last time I checked, it didn’t work out so well for him.

As you can see, this chapter has a moral and the moral is - Think Green. If we will think like the little, green fellow then I believe we will be alright. One final Yoda quote to leave you with, “When nine hundred years you reach, look as good you will not!”

# Chapter 5

## The Glue That Holds

We are now at a place of putting all these things together: being, thinking, speaking and doing. Let us not forget that, “Shortcuts, there are not.” To properly build, one must use all the tools provided and, perhaps, realize that these tools do complement each other. Together, these tools create the circle of life: a continuing process that has neither beginning nor end but, along the way, draws out from us the diamond of great value that shines and reflects the prism of God’s personality in the earth.

Right now some of you are thinking that what I said sounds a little too “new age-y”. Well, it is new age because we live in the new age of the Christ. Do not be afraid of language. Take words you hear and turn them into the fuel that propels you forward into the Christ reality.

I think it is time to lay it all out. Before I bare my soul, I would like to say that what empowers me to stay the course, the glue that holds my life together when I journey in faraway galaxies, are the relationships that I have in my life. That’s right, I said the relationships that I have in my life. I did not say it was people that tell me what to do. On the contrary, it is people that are willing to speak directly and honestly with me and at the same time accept me in all my apparent weirdness. Yes, if you haven’t noticed yet, I am a little different in my thinking and believing than most people I encounter but I must say that I am the person that I am supposed to be, allowing God to do His work through me.

Back to relationships. I do not believe that relationships are our choosing entirely. We need to recognize the people that God puts into our life. Some relationships are short term and others are forever. Here’s a good example: God put a man in my life back in 1990, a man that has been a mentor to me over the last quarter of a century. Now this man, LeRoy Ede, I consider to be my spiritual father. What you must recognise is that I did not choose him and he certainly did not choose me. God put us together and as far as I am concerned it is for life. Now I am not connected to LeRoy because I like him or because we like to hang out together. Far from the truth. We are very different people in the natural and have little in common. I do not want to go on holidays with him and I certainly don’t want to hang out at his place but when God sets forth a purpose there is no other man on the planet I want to stand next to than LeRoy. When it comes to Kingdom activity, I find that we complement each other. When it comes to fighting through a battle, I want his faith by my side, I want his prayers holding me up. You see, we have to get past natural things. The grace of God in LeRoy’s life is what I need in my life; it is part of the missing pieces I need if I am to be all that I am called to be for God's Kingdom.

Back in 1993, the Lord spoke to me. He told me that there were cracks in my foundation and if I wanted to be all that God had planned for me, I would need to have that foundation repaired. The Lord told me specifically to shut down the church I was pastoring, move to Williams Lake to serve LeRoy and help him to fulfill the vision God had given him. In fact, I was told that if I was to serve LeRoy and help him fulfill his vision then God would work on my behalf to fulfill my vision and destiny. So I moved to Williams Lake and served LeRoy directly for 12 years. One may ask, "What did you do in those 12 years to serve LeRoy?" The better question would be, "What did you not do in those 12 years that you served LeRoy?" Serving is doing whatever needs to be done. I did everything from shoveling snow off the sidewalk to working in Children's Ministry, fixing and driving the bus, preaching behind the pulpit, washing and painting walls and driving LeRoy 6 ½ hours to the airport in Vancouver then turning around and driving another 6 ½ hrs back home (in the same day). I have just scratched the surface but it all came down to whatever it takes! Whatever it takes! Did I like everything that I had to do? No, but I made myself like everything that I served into and there were many times that I had no understanding as to what was going on, so I just kept serving. I chose to trust the man whom God had put in my life. This is where people struggle, they would say, "How can you trust a man? A man will always have flaws!" Yes a man will always have flaws but, ultimately, my trust in a man is nothing more than the extension of my trust in God. You see, I had to learn to look past the flaws and trust in the grace of God, to trust in what I did not fully understand. To trust in the relationship.

Let us take a moment and be honest, if we dare. The greatest fear I had of trusting in a relationship is that I would lose control of things, that I would no longer have full control of my life. I have given away part of that control to another. You see, my life needed that. My life needed to get past the need to control things. This is the deeper thing that God was working out in my life because my ability to trust God cannot exceed my ability to trust others. I had to learn to trust others who are not perfect so that I would be able to trust God who is perfect. That is how you fix cracks in one's foundation.

Then on February 5, 2004, at 7:35am, while taking a shower, the Spirit of God spoke very clearly to me. We were to start a work in Kamloops, B.C. Now, at the beginning, I thought that we, as an elder group, were to plant that work but over time it was evident that it was my wife, Robin, and I, along with our five small children that were to go to Kamloops. It was relationships that sorted that out, praying men and women that know how to hear the voice of God. So on July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2005, we arrived in Kamloops.

I still serve LeRoy today. We live in different cities, about a 13 hour drive apart but all it takes is one phone call and I will travel anywhere in the world for him. That's my commitment to relationships. All relationships cost and it is not what you can get from the relationship but instead it is what you can give into the relationship. It kind of sounds like a marriage, doesn't it? Well, I guess the principle of serving still applies and through my serving and commitment to LeRoy I discover the heart of serving and committing to others.

Back to the baring of one's soul. Right now I am choosing to be vulnerable. I am choosing to be intimate. I like to define intimacy as into-me-see, or as some might call it, transparency. Anyways, here we go. It started back in 2002 while in a service in Williams Lake, I received a word from a guest speaker named David Michael. The word was that God was going to spend the night with me and I would ask God a question that no one else would ask. How do you respond to something like that? I have no idea, so I did the next best thing. I simply put that word on the shelf and left it alone. The last thing I wanted to do was try to figure out what the question was that I was going to ask God. I was smart enough to know that I would be wrong anyways. So three years later in November of 2005, LeRoy, a fellow from my congregation, named Mike, and I travelled to Coventry, in the U.K., for an apostolic round table meeting. The last thing on my mind was the word I had three years earlier. We were in the U.K. for about a week and during this time I had a live vision that ran on and off over a three day period. God didn't visit me for one night, He visited me for three nights. During one of the round table meetings, I started to feel like I had been there before and as things continued the feeling only got stronger. Then, it hit me, I had been in this meeting before; it was a re-run. I had watched this meeting the previous night in my vision. As each individual shared different things I would tell the fellow who came with me who would speak next and what they would say and it happened just as I said it would. This went on for the entirety of the meeting. I had no idea what was going on, so I just decided to go with the flow.

I was shown many things during that three day vision but the part I want to tell you about is the part concerning Kamloops. Firstly, I saw myself in a booth at a psychic fair somewhere in Kamloops. There was a sign over the booth that read, "Where the Dream can become Reality" and as I sat in the booth people would come up to me and I would interpret their dreams. Then, I heard the Spirit of God tell me that He has called me to the psychic community. I clearly heard this, "I have not sent you to confront them, I have sent you to relate to them." That word was all fine and dandy but what exactly does it mean? I don't know so I put it on the shelf. Oh, by the way, the church I pastor in Kamloops is now called The Rainbow Centre and our slogan is "Where the Dream can become Reality". Thought I would just throw that in.

There was one part of the vision that repeated itself over and over again throughout that three day period. Perhaps it was the part that God wanted to have embedded deeply into my heart. I will tell it to you just as I saw it. I was standing in my living room, in Kamloops, and, as I looked, in front of me was a tear in the air. It was like a knife cut in a bed sheet that would peek open as the wind passed through it. Except there was no sheet, only air. As I continued to watch this event I suddenly realized the tear was an opening into the eternal or heavenly realm. I was starting to see that heaven is truly all around us. Just because we struggle to see it with our natural eyes doesn't mean that it is not always there. Then, without realizing it, I brought forth the question that no one else would ask. The question was simply, "How do I get in there?" Then, as clearly as if a person was standing next to me, I heard this, "You cannot get in there. You have to believe that you are already there and then you will find yourself there." This is the revelation that He gave me and I have walked this out on a continual basis over the past 12

years. The more I walk this out, the more He reveals to me. The calling of God that I am walking out in Kamloops and the things that I am teaching all stem from that three day vision.

Now, before you start saying, "Wow, I wish God would give me a three day vision." I must point out that the reason He had to speak to me in such a vivid vision is because I was not spiritually mature enough to simply obey the still, small voice. I did not realize the challenges that would face me in the coming years and how I barely hung on even with that vision. If it had been simply the Spirit of God speaking to my heart I would have failed; I would have quit. Sometimes it is hard to look at one's self and realize that God didn't choose me for my strength. No, He chose me for my weakness. He knew that in my weakness I would draw on Him for strength. I would hold on to Him even when I didn't understand. The reality is that God knows my stubbornness and no matter how much it hurts, I will not quit. You see, when we allow God to use us and, dare I say, use our flaws then He can take our flaws and make them into something wonderful and even powerful. In other words, my stubbornness which is a weakness was used as perseverance for His purpose which is a strength.

Strength is forged when we hang on to the things He speaks to us and we make ourselves walk those things out as a daily process. At times this can be a lonely place and God does not promise us that others will understand. He does not promise us that people will cheer us on. Often, it is quite the contrary. I believe that we must be willing to face the criticism without answering back and during that time remember that He promises us that He will be with us even when we believe that He has left us alone. In other words, strength comes at a great price and very few people are willing to make the necessary payments needed to forge forward.

Do you still want a three day vision? How about we simply do the things that He speaks to us. Remember to not despise small beginnings! Obedience starts with picking up the gum wrapper on the mall floor even if you didn't drop it in the first place. That's how it started with me. The Holy Spirit would say, "Pick up that piece of garbage," and I, being a man of faith and power, would say, "But Lord, I didn't do that." He would say, "I didn't ask you if you did that, I told you to pick up the piece of garbage." I must admit in the early days I was no better than a spoiled child wanting his own way but thanks be to God, He never quit on me. He just kept whispering to me the things I did not want to hear and over a long, painful process I slowly started to obey His voice and quit asking why. Then it happened. I graduated from picking up gum wrappers from the mall floor and was now being transformed into something greater. Something that would leave a lasting imprint on our planet. As I looked for what was next, I found myself in the bathroom at the mall. At this point, one may suggest that I spent too much time at the mall. Anyways, I proceeded into a stall and was assaulted by the mess that the previous individual had left behind. I will not go into details but let us just say it was a messy affair. As I started to back up out of the stall I heard the Holy Spirit say to me, "You clean up the mess," to which I quickly replied, "But I didn't do it." Then, I heard this, "Well, if you don't want My anointing then don't do it." Ouch! "God, that is not fair!" Now, what I found interesting is that I heard nothing else spoken to me until I had completed the task at hand. Do you want to hear God's

voice? Well then, I suggest that you obey Him in the little things and, when you can accomplish that, He will give you something bigger. Don't complain if you don't like what the bigger is.

Remember that God uses relationships to create within us the glue needed to stick with it to the end. People that do not have relationships will either faint when the going gets tough or they will end up using others for their own personal gain. The whole point is this; it is not about you and it is certainly not about me. It is about what we can be so that we may empower others to be more than us. That we may empower others to see what we cannot see, to empower others to go where we cannot go, to empower others to build what we cannot build. This, my friend, is what we call the Kingdom and this is what is needed if we are to truly move a head!