

Recalculating Direction

Laurie Williams

All Bible quotations are taken from King James Version unless otherwise noted. This file contains notes from the sharing by Pastor Laurie Williams at God's Girls Ministry on June 21, 2010. All personal testimonies are omitted from these notes. I believe personal testimonies belong to the witness only and should not be repeated by anyone else, especially in a public forum. Verses referred to in these notes that are in parenthesis and in italic font were not shared by speaker, but are supplied by editor as reference to spiritual principals for your learning.

Ever hear that song that goes something like this, "*Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, once we've been tried and found true.*" ? [Ed. Note, I do not know who wrote this song and I could not find the lyrics online to check.]

God chastens those He loves. [Hebrew 12:6, James 1:13]. I have been on my face a lot lately for God's adjustments. David wanted to build the LORD a house, but his son, Solomon built it instead. [1 Chron. 28:3; 1 Kings 6:1] Similarly, I had to be obedient to God's perfect will for my life and give up my dream to become a veterinarian. I was accepted into medical school and changed directions to be obedient. I never told my daughter, but she is an animal lover and wants to be a vet. Kinda like she is taking over my dream where I left it off.

It is not always easy to wait for a prophecy or promise over your life to come to pass. Ten years can go by without any additional word from God. We forget to wait on God in the meantime. We will feel pain, feel uncomfortable, feel like we are not in charge, feel like it's not what we expected.

On a road trip with my mom & dad, who were in charge of the driving and the route, I had to get to Washington DC at a certain time for an important function my daughter was invited to attend. They had one of those navigational systems in place and they took the back roads route. I wanted to take the interstate. It is faster. But we went the back way and left later that what I was comfortable with. We had to take plenty of U turns along the way. Each time we deviated one iota from the designated direction, the navigational director voice in the GPS would say with the annoying voice, "*Recalculating direction.*" And each time, my mom would point out something she found rather pleasant or inspiring along that unexpected turn. "*Look at that tree.*" "*Look there's a lovely cow.*" I was getting more and more on edge. I was in pain, uncomfortable, not in charge of the drive, and it was not what I expected. I felt like smacking that GPS lady whenever it said, "*Recalculating direction.*" I had a destiny. I had a destination. I had an allotted time frame to get there. It was not a smooth ride. And only by a miracle, we got there on time.

...our disposition has to meet the destination.

We get a promise from God and we expect it yesterday. We want it now. We want to get there in our time, for what we have in mind and how we think it should look. But our disposition has to meet the destination. If it doesn't, then God has to make some adjustments. He has to recalculate our direction.

Like a chiropractic adjustment. I was told at my first visit to a chiropractor to relax. So I did. He said, "*I am going to make a gentle adjustment.*" But it did not sound like a gentle nudge. It did not feel like a gentle correction. God adjusts us through

- ❖ The Word
- ❖ The Woes
- ❖ The Wait

"Change is the essence of life." ---Anonymous

He became poor so we could become rich. He went to death so we could live. He prayed, "...not my will but your's be done." Jesus made the adjustments so why can't we?

Hebrews 12:6, 7 KJV

6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

If you tighten up before you get a vaccination you feel it worse, harder and deeper than if you didn't resist. Those gentle adjustments are not just for us. They are also for the next generation.

"Preach the gospel. Use words when necessary." [Ed. Note-I did not catch the name of the person who said this.]

God chastens those He loves. Let Him make those adjustments. Flow with it. We have to change in order to charge. Oswald Chambers said, *"There is intense pain right before total surrender."* Don't blame the devil for what God is tweeking and what He is doing. He wants us to live in His perfect will but we do not want to hear the *"Recalculating direction,"* voice. God is molding us to His image. We are on a potter's wheel. We are like the lump of clay that was molded and then pounded back by the potter when adjustments must be made in the shape of the clay. God has a promise for you not to harm you, plans to prosper your future. He knows the woman of God He created you to be.

Jeremiah 29:11

11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD [Yahweh], thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

2 Timothy 3:16

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works. {throughly...: or, perfected}

The Word of God is profitable for correction, to recalculate our direction, to make gentle adjustments. Sin feels good in the flesh but the wages of sin is death according to Romans 6:23. The direction of the Word of God, if obeyed, is life. Hold on! It will come to pass. Trust God that He is not a man that He should lie, nor the son of man that He should repent or change his mind. Has He not said? Will he not make it good? [Numbers 23:19]

We need the tenacity of a bulldog. They chomp on and don't let go.

Hebrews 4:12

12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Allow God to point out the things in your life that do not please him. None of us has reached perfection. He saw His creation as recorded in Genesis and saw that it was GOOD. We are a good creation. In time, he will tweek and form us more and more into His image. Only in eternal glory, will any of us reach perfection. He will do the work as a master craftsman, and a master teacher through His WORD.

We are adjusted through The Woes, through the trials, the tribulations, the mental pressures. Our attitude is affected the most during less than ideal circumstances. Our attitude at night may act like it's the end of the world but after a good nights sleep, its all better again.

A little girl was given a new hat for Christmas and enjoyed wearing it and showing it off to the family gathered there. Then she went around, one by one, to each grown up, with a demanding, persistent attitude, "DID YOU TAKE MY HAT?" This went on for some time and each person shook their head and laughed. The hat was on her head the whole time. The solution can be as clear as the hat on your own head to others but not so clear to you.

For Jonah to get sent to Nineveh to tell them to repent would be like a Jew getting sent to Hitler in 1942 to tell him to repent. [Jonah 1:7] Jonah did not want God to save them. He did not want to go. The pagans on board prayed to Jonah's God because Jonah didn't. They threw him overboard when they figured out that their ship was in peril because of Jonah's disobedience. The great fish saved Jonah's life. It did not hurt him and it saved him many miles too because it spit him out at Nineveh! The belly of the whale is symbolic for *sheol*, the grave. Jesus was in the grave three days and three nights like Jonah was in the belly of the great fish. He was there several days before he cried out to God. He must have had a bad attitude that needed adjustment. It was if he said, "I would rather be in hell than obey you." Jonah finally repented. The animal spit him up right where he needed to be.

We do not know if Jonah repented again at the end of the book of Jonah when he disobeyed God with a foul attitude again. Jonah was still used by God even though he had a bad attitude. We do not have to get it all together first before God can use us. If we waited to get it all together, nothing would ever get done. Go about kingdom business. Let Him deal with your stuff and the promise he has for you.

Habakkuk 2:1-3

I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved.

2 And the LORD [Yahweh] answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait [*chakah*] for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

The promises won't happen overnight.

Wait.

Wait.

It is how we wait. It is through the wait that God adjusts us especially if we are not waiting well. The Jews wandered through the wilderness for 40 years to make a 3 day trip because of their bad attitude. Is your attitude holding up the fulfillment of the promise?

Look back at the above verse in Habakkuk 2:3. The word *wait* is the Hebrew word *chakah*. It means to stick to it, to adhere to the promise. Write it down. Make it plain so you won't forget about it. In Matthew 6:33 it is written, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." While you

are on the road trip and your direction is continually getting recalculated, look at the pretty trees and the cows along the way instead of focusing on WHY-ARE-WE-NOT-THERE-YET attitude.

Isaiah 40:31

But they that wait [*qavah*] upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

It zaps energy to be mad at God. You won't be soaring and mounting up with wings like eagles if you wait impatiently. Word *wait* in this verse means to entwine yourself around. So while waiting for God, entwine yourself around God and stick to the promise so you stay renewed and refreshed. We get this backwards. We entwine ourselves around the promise and stick to God and we become impatient. It is time we wrap ourselves around the LORD and get so busy with the kingdom of God that we forget the promise of God until we see it fulfilled and wonder, "How did I get here?". Here I am, and have a beautiful journey along the way. He tweaks us along the way. If he gave it to you right away, God would not get the glory and you may not be ready for it. God loves you and me so He chastens us. He instructs us along the way. He recalculates our direction.

Stick to it. Don't give up. Don't be moved to the right hand or the left. Stay spot on. Ask what is right with the situation instead of focusing on what is wrong even if you are going through a major U turn for the tenth time. U Turn with a good attitude. Don't resent you can't see the destination right away. It will come. God's positioning system is accurate. He will chasten you through His Word, through The Woes, and through the Wait until he makes it happen.