



7 THINGS I REMIND MYSELF OF...

30 September 2012, Ps Stephen Smith

When you begin to look back at life... you do so with more than an opinion... you have a track to look back on... a path that has led you to where you are today... the road behind us is clear... while the road before us is almost shut down by the fog of *what ifs*... the future is uncertain... new questions... seasons in life we've never seen before... and a clock that seems to be ticking the wrong way... with this in mind...

Man's decisions cannot override what God already decreed!

Here are 7 things I must remind myself of daily...

1. My words and actions directly affect the lives of all those I care for...

Family:

God, slow to get angry and huge in loyal love, forgiving iniquity and rebellion and sin; still, never just whitewashing sin. But extending the fallout of parents' sins to children into the third, even the fourth generation.

Numbers 14:18 (Message)

Don't bow down to them and don't serve them because I am God, your God, and I'm a most jealous God. I hold parents responsible for any sins they pass on to their children to the third, and yes, even to the fourth generation.

Deuteronomy 5:9 (Message)

Friends:

Lead by example... people watch what you do more than they listen to what you say... inspire and encourage people to their best, by doing your best...

Don't be fooled by those who say such things, for "bad company corrupts good character.

1 Corinthians 15:33 (NLT)

Regarding this next item, I'm not at all pleased. I am getting the picture that when you meet together it brings out your worst side instead of your best!

1 Corinthians 11:17 (Message)

2. Small details make the biggest difference...(Small hinges swing big doors)

Don't minimize details... oversee little things, one day you will look back and discover they were the biggest...

You must stop, my sons! The reports I hear among the lord's people are not good.

1 Samuel 2:24 (NLT)

God said to Samuel, Listen carefully. I'm getting ready to do something in Israel that is going to shake everyone up and get their attention.

1 Samuel 3:11 (Message)

3. I need people... and people need me... everyone has something to offer...

Two people can accomplish more than twice as much as one; they get a better return for their labour. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But people who are alone when they fall are in real trouble.

Ecclesiastes 4:9, 10 (NLT)

4. If anything is worth doing... it is worth doing in excellence...

There's only one thing all successful people have in common: they excel at what they do. There's no point in doing something if you aren't going to do it right. Excel at your work and excel at your hobbies. Develop a reputation for yourself, a reputation for consistent excellence.

5. Growth will always feel uncomfortable...

Growth always begins at the end of your comfort zone. Break out and risk it all ...

Is there anyone here who, planning to build a new house, doesn't first sit down and figure the cost so you'll know if you can complete it?

If you only get the foundation laid and then run out of money, you're going to look pretty foolish. Everyone passing by will poke fun at you: 'he started something he couldn't finish.'

Or can you imagine a king going into battle against another king without first deciding whether it is possible with his ten thousand troops to face the twenty thousand troops of the other?

And if he decides he can't, won't he send an emissary and work out a truce?

Simply put, if you're not willing to take what is dearest to you, whether plans or people, and kiss it good-bye, you can't be my disciple.

Luke 14:28-33 (Message)

6. The birthplace of happiness is in a man's choice...

Being happy doesn't mean everything is perfect, it means you've decided to look beyond imperfection... there are choices you can make every day to breed happiness. Choose to be around the right people. Choose to focus on what you have, not on what you haven't... choose a good attitude... choose to express gratitude. Choose to forgive... choose to take care of your body... begin to take care of feeding your mind... begin today by taking responsibility for your own happiness...

7. Knowing without doing equal's nothing...

The number one thing I persistently see holding smart people back is their own reluctance to take action with the knowledge they already have. In other words, they believe they require additional knowledge, skill, experience, etc. before they can aptly partake in an opportunity...

Remember, the acquisition of knowledge doesn't mean you're growing; growing happens when what you know changes how you live...

For if you just listen and don't obey, it is like looking at your face in a mirror but doing nothing to improve your appearance.

You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like.

But if you keep looking steadily into god's perfect law—the law that sets you free—and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it...

James 1:23 (NLT)

There is a pattern (order) and position (alignment) in Christ. Align is the point of forming alignment to join forces. It's creating a movement through combining recourses.