

Lessons We Don't Like Learning

Various Scriptures

Pastor Larry Grine

June 23, 2013

Bottom Line:

We all encounter challenges that force us to learn uncomfortable lessons in life. In order to make progress through the pain, we need to reconsider our assumptions and respond according to counter-intuitive, counter-cultural biblical principles.

Is sooner necessarily better?

1. **Speeding up generally gets you to your destination quicker, but sometimes you make more progress by _____.**

My example: _____ can _____.

A biblical example: Exodus 2:11-15

Your example: _____.

Are rules meant to be broken?

2. **Rules can feel like obstacles, inhibiting progress, but _____ limitations can actually lead to _____.**

My example: _____ makes _____.

A biblical example: 1 Samuel 13:8-14

Your example: _____.

Does positive thinking lead to success?

3. **Setting goals can be motivational, but when they are built on _____ expectations, they can lead to _____.**

My example: There's a difference between _____ and _____.

Biblical examples: James 4:13-16; Jer. 45:5; Prov. 16:1,3,9

Your example: _____.

Conclusion:

▪ **It's time to reconsider:**

The constant challenge for Christians is to not conform to the world, but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds.

- Are you rushing ahead of God?
- Are you rebelling against God's rules?
- Are your goals from and for God or selfish?

▪ **It's time to pray:**

The ultimate response to God in tough times is reflected in the ultimate prayer: *Not my will but Yours be done.*

- Not my timing, but Yours!
- Not my way, but Yours!
- Not my goals, but Yours!