

Will I Ever Learn?

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By Rebecca Chapman



I like to think of myself as a fairly well-educated person. I have GCSE's, A-levels and a degree and a fair amount of common sense (although those who know me best may tell you otherwise!!).

Why is it then that I often don't think logically and in a sensible way when it comes to making decisions... instead I blindly stumble on by myself trying to find a solution, in the vain hope that it will sort itself out??

I have many favourite Bible verses, and passages, but was introduced to the one I find the most helpful when I attended Bible study classes with Rita Bateman when I was in my late teens (thank you, Rita!!):

Philippians 4:6:

'Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving present your requests to God'

The words of instruction and encouragement in this verse are clear and concise and have helped me through many situations, decision-making processes and changes in my life.

However, although the words of this verse are clear and easy to follow (and are ingrained on my brain) there have been many times (and still are) when I have chosen to try every other avenue to help with a given situation... because clearly I know better!! I would like to say that this process has improved as I have gotten older, but again this has not been consistent either!

Unfortunately, in some instances, my choice to 'go my own way' has led to many unnecessary sleepless nights, anxious moments, arguments and worry before I finally get to the point where I think... maybe I should put this in God's hands... maybe I should ask him what to do... oh yes, Philippians 4:6!!!!

Why then do I not learn from my past experiences? Why do I continue to waste valuable time which I could have put to better use talking to God? The words of the Bible are clear and easy to read... aren't they?!?

Now, I am not saying that by following and adhering to the advice in this passage that there have been 'quick fixes' to my problems... on many occasions this has certainly not been the case. And on many occasions 'praying to' and 'petitioning' God has not always given the 'results' I have wanted or expected!

However, I can certainly say, looking back over the years, that the responses or guidance I have received have clearly led to me following a better path... the path that God has planned for me.

Thankfully, my journey with God is encouraged by the person who has eternal patience, love, words of encouragement and who is keen to teach me the right way. It is a life-long journey, and he expects me to make mistakes... that hopefully I will eventually learn from!!

So, maybe there is hope for me yet?!?

(Photo by [Brett Jordan](#) on [Unsplash](#))