

WORD LIVING



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Living Without Compromise

Where did the time go? It is June and time to close another Word Living year. For those who are new, we break during the summer (July and August) to renew and refresh hoping to see you again in September. We encourage you to let us know if you move and we welcome new readers and writers. Have a blessed summer.

We close with a reminder that we are called to be an example of hope to this world.

MEN OF GOD - WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

www.stewardsinaction.com as a section titled MEN-TO-MEN. The articles are written by men for men. We hope you take the time to view the website and be encouraged. Perhaps you aren't aware that you are loved and needed. No one can do your job. Men you are called to be the Priest, Provider and Protector of your family. When you fail to do so, your example is passed to the next generation.

You cannot do it alone that is on your own strength. Only by the grace and power of God can you fulfill your calling. Men you must yield all to the cause of Christ and take your proper role as a follower of Jesus and a teacher of truth.

It is never to late to make a change, to say I'm sorry or to say I love you. Someone is waiting to hear from you. To each of you, a blessed and joyous Father's Day

This month, Sequita shares a powerful lesson taught but the master teacher.

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I have a confession...I was late for work this morning. Got off to a good start but just could not get out of the house on time. This slothfulness of mine or delay I was not quite sure of, got me a couple of minutes off my schedule causing me to arrive to work late.

Unbeknownst to me, I had to learn a life lesson this morning. You see, God never wastes a minute of your time to teach you something, if you are listening.

It's pouring down raining. I pulled out of my driveway and headed toward Irwin Street. I saw the school bus (at the Children's Home), and instantly knew I was going to be late. This is the bus that takes kids to Bunker School. I was hoping the bus was loaded with kids and that I did not have to STOP for it. But, that wasn't the case.

I then noticed a Tahoe bend the corner at a fast pace. The driver whipped in front of the bus and made a U turn to stop in front of me. Sure enough, he had a kid in the car to catch that bus. The driver was determined to not let that kid miss it. The STOP sign swung out, the kids already waiting proceeded to load the bus, and instantly the door opened on the car in front of me and a young girl jumped out and ran to the bus. She got there just in the nick of time. I laughed to myself and said, "wow, she just made it." After the girl hopped on...the DOOR WAS SHUT and the bus driver turned off the "red flashing warning lights" and the STOP sign shifted snugly to the side of the bus.

The parent driving the Tahoe in front of me began to drive off with confidence that his child made it in just in

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time. The bus driver shifted the bus in gear and began to move forward. In a split second I noticed a kid running from the corner with one arm in his jacket trying to catch the bus. I thought to myself, oh, no...he isn't going to make it. I had to think quickly. What could I do to help? Ahhhh...I will just move ahead very slow so the bus could not turn the corner. After all, I was sitting in the middle of the intersection to the street the bus driver had to turn on. In my mind I thought I would delay the bus long enough for the kid to get to it and knock on the door to get the driver's attention.

That didn't work. The bus driver was already turning the bus. He assumed I was going to keep going and get out of his way or I would get hit. So I had to move. The poor kid stood on the street in front of Child Haven getting soaking wet. He looked so disappointed. Now he had to figure out how to get to Bunker School on time. It was a long way and he was just a split second too late.

As I got to the corner I felt bad. And you know me, I wanted to scoop him up and take him to school. But I turned onto Irwin Street and proceeded to work. While driving...a light bulb came on in my head.
HE GOT LEFT BEHIND!!!

Lesson learned...

1. The kids waiting at the bus stop were there on time and **READY** to go to their destination.
2. The bus driver had a **PURPOSE** and his destination was Bunker School. He had to stay on track because there were many other kids that he had to pick up **READY** and **WAITING** along the way. He could not **DELAY**.
3. The kid who missed the bus was not ready. He came too slow and half dressed; and in a split second he got **LEFT BEHIND**. His parents need to encourage him to get up earlier and learn to be on time for such important events. Also, the kid is at the age of consent and needs to take responsibility for his own actions.
4. I tried to do all I could to help but it was nothing more I could do. I cannot save everybody. At that moment, all his help was exhausted.

You have to get this...The Lord reminded me about the Parable of the Ten Virgins in Matthew 25:1-13. Paraphrased...the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out the meet

the bridegroom. Five were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps.

The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight a cry rang out: "Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!" Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.' The wise virgins said no because they thought there would not be enough for both us.

They told the foolish ones to go buy some. While the foolish virgins went to buy oil the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were **READY** went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the **DOOR WAS SHUT!** The foolish virgins said, **SIR, SIR, OPEN THE DOOR FOR US!** But he replied, 'I tell you the truth, I don't know you.' Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

The bridegroom (**JESUS**) is coming, and just like the kid at the bus stop...

- You can't be half dressed or late because the **DOOR WILL SHUT!**
- There will be **NO ONE TO ASSIST** you like I tried to help.

- If you are not ready, you will be **LEFT BEHIND**.

What if the kid had reached out to touch the bus and slipped. It was slick outside with rain. He could have fallen under the moving bus and got ran over. The bus driver never saw him. Then it would have been a tragedy!

We have made too many excuses for not being who God wants us to be. We have failed numerous times in not offering salvation to those we know aren't saved.

The red warning lights are flashing and the **STOP** sign is up.

What are you going to do?
I chose to share this life lesson with you.

GET READY OR BE LEFT BEHIND!!!

Should the Lord delay his coming, we will see you in September.

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