



## Taking The Next Step Sunday August 13, 2006

### Practical Instructions on moving forward with God

#### Introduction

Very often we arrive at those points in life when we have to take the next step.

There are some "major" next steps in life. Example:

Finish std. 10 (around 15 yrs old)

Finish std. 12 / II P.U. (around 17)

Finish Degree (around 21/22)

Marriage – Big next step

Job transitions / Career change / Going from being an Employee-to-Employer

Relocation

And then there "minor" next steps in life:

Moving from one home to another.

Changing schools.

Moving from a rental to purchase own home.

Moving from a two-wheeler to a four-wheeler.

#### Main Topic

Practical instructions on taking the next step with God.

What do I do next?

How do I do this?

Distill some insights gained from the Word of God out of my own personal walk with God.

Illustration: Prophecy (1988)

"God has given you an adventurous spirit. Some of my people are like the donkey – difficult to get them to move. Some are like the horse – they run ahead of me. But God has given you the ability to walk in step and in time with Him".

Psalm 32:8,9

The literal meaning is, "I will counsel thee; mine eye shall be upon thee."

The idea is that of one who is telling another what way he is to take in order that he may reach a certain place; and he says he will watch him, or will keep an eye upon him; he will not let him go wrong.

#### **#1. Avoid the "Donkey Syndrome"**

Stubborn, unwilling to move, lazy,

Things that make a donkey out of us:

- Fear of failure (What if I make a mistake)  
Psalm 37:23,24,31    Psalm 25:12-15    Psalm 18:36  
Indecision is a step itself. You have decided not to decide.
- Fear of the unknown    Hebrews 11:8



You can never step in to your future unless you are willing to step out of your present.

- Attachments (The ties that bind)  
*Relational* attachments (parents, friends, mentors, etc.), *Religious* attachments (denomination, way of doing things, etc.), *Rational* attachments (expect things must happen a certain way, etc.)  
Don't let the attachments of today, become shackles that prevent you from stepping in to your tomorrow.
- Perpetual Preparation  
There will come a time when you have to "graduate" whether you like it or not.

## #2. Avoid being "Hasty Horsy"

The horse as it is by nature - wild, ungoverned, unwilling to be tamed and made obedient.

Proverbs 21:5      Isaiah 28:16

Timing is important. Learn to walk in time and in step with God.

Prepare well. Proverbs 4:26

Illustration: Transition to India (Dec 2000)

## #3. You have to be moving if you want steering

Genesis 24:47 The Lord led me as I was in the way

Many times – God just tells you what you need to start doing. And as you start obeying, the rest of the leading and direction begins to unfold.

Acts 8:29 Philip – Go get on the chariot.

Acts 11:12 Peter – Go with these strangers.

Take incremental steps.

Illustration: We had to go looking for a place, before we could find the right one.

## #4. Don't lean on your own understanding

Proverbs 3:5,6      Proverbs 16:9

Use your understanding – but don't lean (rely) solely on it.

God's leading supersedes your understanding.

Exercise your faith in God.

Illustration: Manipal SSC (1989 December)

Proposing to Amy (Nov 1993)

## #5. Once you have taken your next step – Don't waver

Matthew 14:22-33

Once you have taken the next step – an uninvited guest may show up: Satan

- Even if you have to work hard – remember God is with you.



- Even if there are delays – remember God is with you.
- Even if you have bouts of discouragement – remember God is with you.
- Even if there are disappointments – remember God is with you.
- Even if you feel confused – remember God is with you.
- Even if you feel you made a mistake – remember God is with you.

Take The Next Step!  
Enjoy your walk with God.



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**YOUTUBE:** <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

**WEBSITE:** <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

**CHURCH:** <https://apcwo.org>

**FREE SERMONS:** <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

**FREE BOOKS:** <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

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**JESUS CHRIST:** <https://examiningjesus.com>

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