

Here are four things that have crossed my desk recently. See if you can find the common thread.

1. A disciple trusts God's heart more than personal feelings. A disciple walks with wise companions. A disciple keeps their eyes fixed on Jesus. A disciple continues walking even when the road becomes difficult. Keep walking. Not because you're strong enough, but because Jesus is faithful enough. --from our Conference Superintendent, Rev. Steven Taylor.
2. The creek doesn't fight the rocks. It doesn't stop and ask why they're there. It quietly flows around them... and never loses sight of where it's going. Maybe that's our lesson. Not every obstacle deserves our energy. Keep flowing toward the life you're building. – Facebook post
3. The morning devotional/prayer time that I listen to is called "The Bending Road." It's stated purpose is to help us navigate the bends in our roads—the surprises life throws at us, the unexpected events that this fallen world (not the way God created it to be) has in store for us.
4. The Closer Walk weekends help us to withdraw from our busy lives and focus on our relationship with God.

On one of our hot, humid days, I decided to take an air-conditioned ride. Nancy Moir says it is difficult to find her house, so I took up the challenge and plugged her address into my GPS. Off Olivia and I went. Turn left, turn right, turn left, turn right, paved road, dirt road, turn, turn, turn. I began to think that the GPS had lost its mind! Eventually, we did find her house and then headed on into Arkport and back home.

We need to know our destination--for our GPS, for our earthly lives, and, most importantly, for our spiritual lives. Yogi Berra once said, "If you don't know where you are going, you might wind up someplace else." It is important to keep our eyes on the road. The windshield is bigger than our mirrors. You can't plow a straight furrow if you keep looking back. Lots of sayings suggest that we need to keep focused on our destination if we want to get to the desired outcome.

So, what's your destination? Or as the Adult Sunday School might put it, "What is your dream?" Do you know where you're going? Randy Alcorn (a popular Christian author) put it this way, "For Christians, this present life is the closest they will come to Hell. For unbelievers, it is the closest they will come to Heaven."

Jesus gives us this command: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

Do you have a destination? Or are you just "floating through life" reacting to whatever comes your way? I know my life has not been as direct as I wish it had been. Keep your eye on the prize, as Paul puts it. Everywhere you go, you are a child of The King and a witness for Jesus Christ.

Don't forget to **"Bee A Disciple!"**

*Pastor Barre* 