

It is truly amazing what can be accomplished when small, consistent steps are taken toward a goal. Have you had opportunity to tour the buildings and grounds of Biltmore Estate in Asheville, NC? It truly is amazing to view the enormity and grandeur of the buildings and grounds. But Biltmore Estate did not appear overnight; we see the culmination of six years of construction and 130 years of curated landscaping. 137 years ago? What we know as Biltmore Estate was a conglomeration of 50 small farms and an African-American community called Old Shiloh.

Have you ever been to Egypt to see the Great Pyramids? Yeah, me neither! But the wonder of internet technology allows me to “view” the pyramids from the comfort of my home! What truly boggles my mind is how the Great Pyramids were constructed. The construction process was painstakingly slow, involved the manual maneuvering of ginormous stone slabs weighing many tons from the quarry to the construction site, and then the stone slabs had to be precisely positioned (unless you’re a proponent of the “Alien Technology” theory of how such a massive undertaking was completed). The Great Pyramid of Giza took between 20 to 30 years to complete. Again – it is truly amazing what can be accomplished when small, consistent steps are taken toward a goal.

The process of transforming the Cochran by-pass from a two-lane to a four-lane road serves as a hometown example of how small steps taken toward a goal can eventually accomplish something really nice. A bevy of little projects had to be completed before the finished product appeared: dirt had to be removed from some areas; dirt had to be hauled into other areas; surveying had to be done; and a bridge was constructed over the railroad tracks. Numerous small steps produced a nice four-lane by-pass.

This same principle of small, consistent steps leading to something great or beautiful or powerful applies to the process God uses to grow you and me into spiritually strong and mature disciples. Deciding today to surrender to God’s plan for our life does not mean we will wake up tomorrow to find that we suddenly know the entire Bible from memory or that we all of a sudden grasp the deepest truths related to the holiness of God or that we’ll start giving God 90% of our income while living off of the remaining 10%. God grows His children one moment, one step, one day, one experience at a time. Every time we respond in obedience to God, we are putting little steps one after the other in the process of becoming what God would have us to be! Disciplining ourselves to be patient with God’s process is maybe the greatest challenge we face. We see things in our lives that scream to be addressed or blatant weaknesses that need to be shored up and the temptation is to run ahead of God to try and do ourselves what we’re sure God wants done — yet this never turns out well...it’s like a lump of clay trying to make a beautiful pot of itself rather than trusting the master Potter to complete what He has begun!

The Bible tells us in Philippians 1:6, “I am sure of this, that He who started a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” Trust your Father. He not only knows what He’s doing, He is also perfect in His timing! One day you’ll be able to look back to where you started your journey with Jesus and marvel at the evidences of grace decorating your life. Cya in Sunday School & Worship, PK.