

# CHRISTIAN WORKER

"We are workers together with Him..." (2 Corinthians 6:1)

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## ...As a Christian

Troy Spradlin

**H**ave you ever considered your life and thought, "If I could start all over again, I would ..."? I believe we all do that at some point or another, perhaps quite often. It is natural to allow retrospect to dictate what might have been if given the chance. Usually, we apply this thought to something unkind we may have said or done to someone, a bad decision we made, or the outcome of a certain direction in life.

So, what if you could start again as a Christian? We may not consider that because it should be one of our better decisions. Right? Typically, we shouldn't have any regrets or desire for "do-overs" when we committed our lives to Christ. Yet, even becoming a Christian can be subject to hindsight scrutiny. Would you do anything differently? I would.

**For starters, I would have gone to Bible school sooner.** It's easier to truly appreciate some things after you have experienced them. The decision to attend a Bible school was not easy for someone like me, who was married, involved in a lucrative career, and entering middle age. Yet, it turned out to be one of the best decisions of my entire life. It gave me the working knowledge I needed to find the answers to my questions (2 Pet. 1:3). It opened my eyes to the power of God's Word (Rom. 1:16-17). It equipped me to teach others (2 Tim. 2:2). It also provided numerous wonderful contacts and friendships that have been such a blessing over the years.

Yet, I allowed seven years to pass before I made that crucial decision to attend. Because of what I experienced, I would highly encourage any Christian (new or old) to get as much Bible knowledge as possible, first thing, or even consider attending a Bible school. There is a reason why Hosea wrote, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (Hos. 4:6). It is because the Bible is the most important teaching every disciple of the Lord should seek out.

**Secondly, I would have entered ministry sooner.** After I was baptized as an adult (I had fallen away from the church in my youth), I started finding ways to serve more in the church. I discovered that being around Christians and serving was the best method for holding me accountable to God. As I grew, I began to be invited to teach and preach. I had been asked earlier but always declined for some reason. One brother eventually encouraged me to start. Since then, I have learned so much more about compassion, grace, mercy, and forgiveness than I ever could have outside of ministry. I have also been blessed to see the power of God's Word in changing lives and witnessed very specific prayers being

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# FROM THE EDITOR:

## THE WISDOM OF LISTENING AND LEARNING

Cody Westbrook

On the whole, American culture displays a tragic lack of wisdom. One could likely identify a number of reasons why such is the case but perhaps the greatest reason is actually quite simple—people refuse to listen and learn.

Wisdom desires to be heard. She “calls aloud outside; she raises her voice in the open square” (Pro. 1:20). She stands at the city gates and cries aloud for fools to listen to her pleading (Pro. 8:1-5). Wisdom is available to everyone in abundance and, more than 15 times, Proverbs urges us to open our ears and listen. “Incline your ear to wisdom and apply your heart to understanding” (Pro. 2:2; 4:20; 22:17). “My son, pay attention to my wisdom, lend your ear to my understanding” (Pro. 5:1). “Hear, my son, and be wise” (Pro. 23:19). Proverbs 8:32-35 says,

Now therefore, listen to me, my children,  
For blessed are those who keep my ways.  
Hear instruction and be wise, And do not  
disdain it. Blessed is the man who listens to  
me, Watching daily at my gates, Waiting at  
the posts of my doors. For whoever finds  
me finds life, And obtains favor from the  
Lord.

Over and over again wisdom says “Listen to me!” “Pay attention to me!” (Pro. 7:24). But will we?

One way to learn wisdom is to listen to those who have it. It would be foolhardy indeed to be surrounded by years of experience and godliness and yet choose to ignore it. Imagine taking control of a company but refusing to listen to the counsel of the one who built it from the ground up and learning from his years of experience! Solomon knew this to be true as well. He described the foolishness of one who thinks his own understanding is sufficient when he said, “The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, But he who heeds counsel is wise” (Pro. 12:15). He wrote, “Incline your ear and

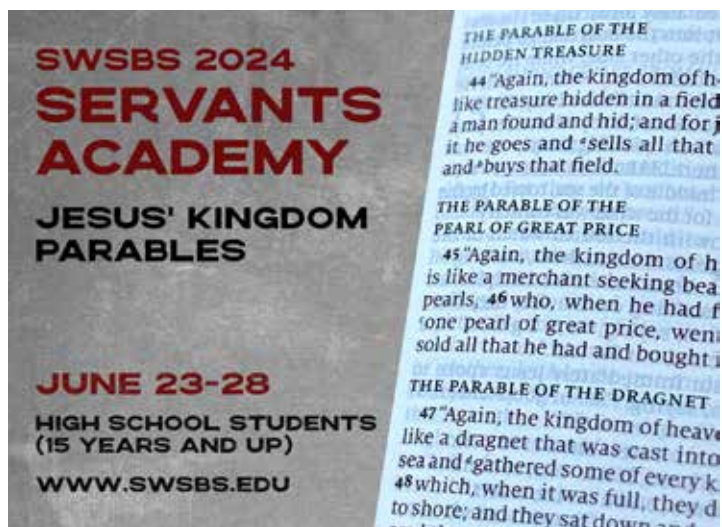
hear the words of the wise, And apply your heart to my knowledge” (Pro. 22:17). If only his son had listened.

Rehoboam took the throne following the death of his father. He began his reign by senselessly ignoring wisdom and embracing folly. First Kings 12 describes Jeroboam and the people coming before Rehoboam with the request to “lighten the burdensome service of your father, and his heavy yoke which he put on us, and we will serve you” (1 Kings 12:4). Wisely, Rehoboam sought advice but stupidly he listened to the wrong advisors. The elders counseled him to “be a servant to the people” and “speak good words to them,” but the young men—his peers—counseled him to be more stern than his father and to tell the people “I will add to your yoke” (1 Kings 12:10-11). He listened to the young men and the people rebelled.

We can learn much from Rehoboam, but consider what he teaches us about the need to listen and learn from those who are wise. Wisdom is all around us in the form of older and more experienced brothers and sisters in Christ. All we must do is humble ourselves enough to ask them for advice and apply what they say. Are you struggling as a parent? Seek out a parent who has raised faithful children. Are you just beginning your work as a gospel preacher, and are unsure exactly what you need to do? Ask an old preacher to guide you. It is “the Lord [who] gives wisdom, from His mouth comes knowledge and understanding” (Pro. 2:6), and when you find a Christian man or woman who has dedicated years of their life to seeking out and applying God’s wisdom, you find a spring through which God’s wisdom flows.

Rehoboam listening to the advice of his peers would be about the equivalent of looking for answers on Tik Tok or Twitter. It will lead you to the same place it led him. Do not be like Rehoboam. Avail yourself to the wisdom of those who know better. Listen and learn.

CW



## ...As a Husband

Dave Rogers

**R**egret has been a perpetual refrain for humanity since our beginning; I have no doubt Adam and Eve must have thought, “If only we could go back to the garden, we’d never touch that fruit again!” I sometimes wonder if Nicodemus’ words in John 3:4 held a wistful tinge of “If only I really *could* be born again.”

I have been greatly blessed to have been the husband of only one wife in my lifetime. For nearly 44 years Luann has willingly shared my highs and lows, my successes and failures. Becoming a husband should be an intimidating prospect; taking on the responsibility to lead, guide, and nurture the tender soul of a woman who willingly puts her heart, emotions, welfare, and happiness into her husband’s hands should not be done lightly. Solomon wrote, “Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD” (Pro. 18:22), and a godly wife invests herself in her husband, not only rejoicing in his successes but oftentimes feeling his wounds and disappointments even more deeply than he. She longs for admittance to the tenderest, innermost reaches of his heart, and feels crushed when he shuts her out. Allowing that access and intimacy is more than some men are willing to give, and betrayal of it can leave wounds only the Savior can heal.

I was 51 years old when my mother died. During that time I never doubted my father’s love for her, but I never actually heard him speak the words “I love you” to her (or to anyone else, for that matter). Sometimes our most valuable lessons

fall into the “what NOT to do” category! When I told her I was going to marry Luann, one of the things my mother said was, “Not all women are like me; she may cry, or need you to listen to her, or tell her you love her.” Those words registered in a way few others ever have, because I heard in them a longing I suspect she had long ago learned to suppress.

If I *could* start again as a husband, there are certainly things I’d change, but there are also things I’d try to NOT change.

I *would* try to read Ephesians 5:22-33 much more carefully and personally, making a deliberate effort to define the direction of our spiritual lives from the day of our wedding. It was my mistake to allow so much of our spiritual growth to be born of and defined by the challenges, hardships, and heartaches Luann and I have experienced. Adversity teaches very thoroughly, but its lessons are hard-learned.

I *would* strive from the day of our wedding to conquer the self-consciousness of youth so that we could learn to feel comfortable praying together. For decades it was hard for me to voice my cares and fears to my Father in the presence of an “audience” (it still is at times), but more often than not our joys and our worries are the same, and I need the forgiveness and the prayer support of my life’s companion (cf. Jas. 5:16).

I *would* make a greater effort to actually practice the instructions of James 1:19-20, by paying closer attention to Luann’s thoughts, hopes, dreams, and fears. Many of the things that matter most to her are things that never even “registered” with me in the early years of our marriage.

On the other hand, I would *continue* making a point of actually speaking the words “I love you” every day, regardless of our momentary marital “condition” (peaceful, angry, hopeful, hurt, etc.). A dear older friend in the early years of our marriage used to joke that he told his wife that he loved her on the day they married, and if he ever changed his mind he’d let her know. When I married, his wife confided that she longed to hear him actually say those words, even though she knew he loved her.

I would *continue* bringing fresh flowers, favorite candies, and cards on special occasions AND “just because.” It made her feel special among her coworkers when I brought these things to her workplace personally. The investment of time to be there in person, to share lunches together, and to know the environment in which she spent many hours each day has paid rich dividends in our relationship.

I would *continue* to open and hold doors for Luann, hold her purse and coat, pump gas so she doesn’t have to, and do all the “little” gestures that say “I prize you and your companionship more than any other in this world.” These may be little things, but they show love and make her feel cherished; can you imagine our Lord letting a door slam in His bride’s face (cf. Eph. 5:29)?

In summary, if I *could* start over again as a husband, I'd try to pay much closer attention to the way my Lord treats HIS bride, so as to reflect that same unwavering commitment, solicitude, and tenderness in my own marriage.

CW

## ...AS A FATHER

Carl McCann

"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth" (3 John 4).

Contextually, John is most likely referring to Gaius (and others whom John knew) and his faithful obedience and devotion to God. As a father of three grown children (along with their spouses), I can understand the joy of faithful children. However, our thoughts are centered on the idea of what I would do differently in raising my children. Sober reflection upon the past clarifies areas where I should have done better and I'm so grateful my children overcame my shortcomings as their father.

**1. If I Could Start Again – I Would Really Talk With My Children.** To make this statement doesn't mean we never talked. But, like so many parents, I just figured my children would "get it." Isn't it just natural for children who attend Bible class and worship regularly, to learn and obey the gospel when it's time? Having learned and obeyed the truth, are they not destined to remain faithful? Sadly, many parents who did as I did have a different story to tell! Starting over I would do a better job of following Deuteronomy 6:4-9. From our chosen text we learn some valuable truths which must be instilled in our children. Notice from the text:

- a. Message – "...The Lord our God, the Lord is one!" (v.4).
- b. Method – "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your might. And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart." (v. 5-6).
- c. Moments – "You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up." (v.7).

d. Memorial – "You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the door posts of your house and on your gates." (v.8-9).

If parents will follow the teaching of Moses we will have much to discuss with our children. Apply the principles with New Testament truth and we will have done our children a great service.

**If I Could Start Again – I Would Convey How Valuable They Truly Are.** Once again I pray that I did let my children know, they are valuable to us as their parents, but much more to God. This truth is set out in Psalm 127:3-5, "Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord; the fruit of the womb is His reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth. Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them; they shall not be ashamed, but shall speak with their enemies in the gate."

- a. Heritage – described as a "gift" (NASB 95) from God; as such we must seek to understand the value of the gift. Children like their parents are created in the image of God (Gen. 1:26-27). God has graciously given us our children (Gen. 33:5) and their value is more than the whole world (Matt. 16:26).
- b. Reward – this word indicates that our children are actually God's property, entrusted to parents to keep, protect and value as God's prize possession. On the heart of every parent should be, "... What will be the boy's rule of life, His work?" (Judges 13:12). Parents are building men and women who will one day return to God; in what shape will they return?

**If I Could Start Again – I Would Train Them Diligently.** Proverbs 22:6 is a familiar passage, but we dare not let our familiarity lead to carelessness. The passage reads, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Children need to know what is right and what is wrong. Children need to know that there are boundaries which they are not to cross. Children need discipline, not abuse, but corrective discipline which may include not sparing the rod (Pro. 23:13-14).

However, children not only need discipline (seen as negative), they need reassurance from their parents. According to Luke 2:52 Jesus "increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and men." Let's notice the verse:

- a. Wisdom – Progressive development of the mind.



- b. Stature – Physical needs must be supplied by parents (cf. 1 Tim. 5:8).
- c. Favor – Children must learn how to live in society, while not following the lifestyle of much of society (John 17:15-16).

Much more could be said, but I pray that as parents, and fathers in particular we'll do all that we can to "bring them (children) up in the training and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4). May God help us.

CW

## ...AS A TEENAGER

Wade Webster

I grew up in a small, rural town in Alabama. There were woods to hunt, lakes to fish, and plowed fields to search for arrowheads. There were no cell phones. There was no internet. Pornography was not just a click away as it is for teens today.

I grew up in what is known as the Bible Belt - a belt-like swath across the State of Alabama and the South where religion was especially strong. It could have been called the Bible Belt for other reasons also. After all, the Bible and the belt were the strongest deterrents to sin and stupidity in the region (Pro. 22:15; 23:13-14). Almost every home had both and used them regularly. I know that mine did. I was blessed to grow up in a strong Christian home. My dad was an elder. My mom was a stay at home mom. I wasn't homeschooled, so I did experience the bus and other dens of depravity, but my exposure to evil was pretty limited. I was wise to what was good and simple concerning evil (Rom. 16:19). We had a wonderful preacher who presented clear, Bible-filled sermons each week. We had great men come to hold gospel meetings. We had Bible classes that really were Bible classes. We had a good youth group with a good man who worked with us. The congregation was active and loving. We had regular fellowships and outings. I couldn't have had a much better environment in which to grow up.

There aren't even many things about my choices growing up that I would change. Don't get me wrong. I wasn't perfect; but, all in all, through the guidance of my parents, I avoided many of the youthful lusts that tripped up others (2 Tim. 2:22). I didn't drink alcohol (Pro. 20:1). I didn't smoke, unless candy cigarettes count. What were my parents thinking letting us purchase them and pretend to smoke? Though, I never smoked a real cigarette, I did light one. Before I could try

it, I heard my mom coming, and I tossed it out the window. Thanks mom. You knew I was being too quiet. I did pester my uncle for some RED MAN one time. He gave me a huge chew and told me to swallow it. Thankfully, I didn't swallow it, but I did turn ten shades of green before I could spit it out. I will tell you this, I never asked again. RED MAN, SICK MAN, NO MAN! I did watch things that I shouldn't have watched on television and in movies. I know this because on occasion I have gone back as an adult to watch something that I remembered from my youth and have been shocked and ashamed (Phil. 4:8). I didn't go to the prom or other dances (Gal. 5:19-21). I kept myself pure (1 Tim. 5:22; Heb. 13:4; 1 Cor. 6:18). By the grace of God, I didn't do a lot of the things that I could have done.

Though I wouldn't change much about my surroundings or my choices growing up, there are things that I would do differently. Mainly, there are some things that I would do more of if I could start again as a teenager.

First, if I could start again as a teenager, I would **Slow Down More**. Young people are generally in a hurry to grow up. They are in a hurry to drive and to date, to leave home and to go to college, and to meet someone and to get married. I understand. I was the same way. If I could start again, I would slow down more. I would enjoy being young more. Youth really is a wonderful time of life. It is gone too soon. The Bible compares youth to dew (Ps. 110:3). Like dew, it appears quietly and disappears quickly. We must remember our Creator when we are young because we will soon be at the end of our lives looking back (Ecc. 12:1).

Second, if I could start again as a teenager, I would **Soak Up More**. As I already noted, I was blessed with many wonderful teachers - parents, preachers, youth leaders, etc. I was blessed with countless Christian camps and youth events. However, I know that I didn't soak up as much as I should have. I wish I could go back and listen more attentively (Neh. 8:3). The seed didn't always fall into good soil. Sometimes, it remained on the top of the ground, developed no roots, or got choked out. I didn't always have ears to hear (Matt. 13:1-23).

Third, if I could start again as a teenager, I would **Seek Out More**. I don't think that most young people realize the evangelistic opportunities they have. I would suggest that at no time in life will they have more opportunities than they have in youth. If I could do it again, I would evangelize more. Like Phillip, I would invite my friends to come and to see (John 1:43-46). I would be wiser and win more souls (Pro. 11:30).

Of course, I can't start again as a teenager. I can only do as Solomon did and encourage you to listen to one who was once where you are.

CW

## ...AS A PREACHER

Ronnie Scherffius

There is not one among us who, if possible, would step back into time either to restart, redo, or remove completely from our lives that which we deem unsatisfactory. Such, however, is folly. It is not possible to return to the past. Water that passes under a bridge flows ever distant. A day that vanishes to the evening returns not with the morning. Shortcomings and failures should not remain to hinder us but rather be forgotten (Phil. 3:13). We should not be distracted from our present course but diligently focused on our present field of labor (Luke 9:62). Nevertheless, revisiting the past of both our successes and shortcomings, can be profitable and provide lessons for the present. Our Lord said, “Remember Lot’s wife” (Luke 17:32). Paul reminded the saints at Ephesus that “in time past,” they had been Gentiles without hope (Eph. 2:11, 12). Thus, we can learn from the past as well as help others who are just beginning to chart their course.

With this in mind, as a preacher, if I could start again, I would prioritize committing the Word of God to my memory. I am convinced there is little more beneficial to a proper understanding of the truth than a heart and mind filled with it. The ability to recall and connect passages helps one better to see and to teach the Bible as a whole. To be filled with the Spirit is to be filled with His Word (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16). The soldier who takes the victory is most familiar with the Sword (cf. Eph. 6:17b; Heb. 4:12). The psalmist worded it best, “The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom, and his tongue talketh of judgment. **The law of his God is in his heart;** none of his steps shall slide.” (Psa. 37:30-31).

If I could start again as a preacher, I would spend time with older preachers. Joshua had Moses as a mentor (Num. 27:18-23). Elisha had Elihah as a father (2 Kings 2:12). Mark had the encouragement of Peter (1 Pet. 5:13). Timothy increased in wisdom having “fully known” Paul’s manner of life (2 Tim. 3:1; cf. 2 Tim. 2:2; 1:13). I have benefited greatly, and cherish beyond measure my association with such preachers a Curtis Cates, Garland Elkins, and Robert R. Taylor, Jr. I have often encouraged my sons, “*Sit among older preachers when possible and listen to their conversations. Gain from their knowledge. Grow from their wisdom.*” If I could start again as a preacher, I would, early and often, take time to spend with those battle-tested soldiers of the cross.

If I could start again as a preacher, I would learn early

when to “sit and listen” and when to “rise up and do.” It is no coincidence that Luke places the account of Jesus in Martha’s house (Luke 10:38-42) immediately after the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37). From the parable, we are instructed, “Go and do” (37). Yet, in Martha’s house, Mary was praised for sitting and listening (42). How many times have I stood to do, only later to wish I had remained seated, listening!

Finally, in retrospect, if I could start again as a preacher, I would spend more time with my family. I know of no man who, looking back on his life, has said, “I wish I would have spent less time with my wife.” “I wish I could take back those days spent with my children.” The opposite is true. James posited, “For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.” (James 4:14b). The work of a preacher is a blessed work. It is a rewarding work. It is a busy work. Preacher, remember, **you** have a family.

Time moves swiftly (Job 7:6; 9:25, 26). It cannot be recalled. I cannot redo the past but I can communicate those things I believe would have made me a better preacher. These are a few.

CW

## ...AS AN ELDER

Bill Siebert

**If I Could Start Again,** I would have better Bible study habits. There were many times throughout the four decades that I served the Southwest congregation as an elder that I felt I was inadequate in Bible knowledge but, looking back, I should have had a better plan to study the Bible, not just daily Bible reading, but more time each day in intensive Bible study; taken better notes while listening to the preacher; spent more time in memorizing Bible verses; and taken advantage of classes offered in the Southwest School of Bible Studies. I would have been more comfortable and could have offered better advice in many situations over the years.

**If I Could Start Again,** I would delegate responsibilities. This has always been one of my many weaknesses. Too often I relied on an old saying, “If you want the job done right, do it yourself.” I have come to realize that this was a shortcoming on my part because someone else could have profited if I had

delegated some good responsibility to them. I should have listened to Moses' father-in-law Jethro as he advised him to delegate authority to others (Ex. 18:13ff).

**If I Could Start Again,** I would want a vision for the future. Too often through the years we get into a routine or habit of doing the same thing over and over again, because we are comfortable with whatever it is. I would have loved to have had the vision of those men who served before me. They had the foresight to look to the future and see the need for a school of preaching in our area. I should have learned to "think outside the box." The Lord's kingdom needs men of vision for the future.

**If I Could Start Again,** I would want to be a better counselor. I have found through the years that the best counselor is one who listens. Most people want someone to listen to their problems, and too often we try to intervene. I have always tried to be a good listener and not try to intercede, but let the person talk and "get it off their chest." If I could start again, I would want to properly counsel someone spiritually with their personal problems.

**If I Could Start Again,** I would be a better encourager. Here I'm thinking about encouraging men to develop their talents to serve in the Lord's church. I would have more men's training classes to encourage and help men to serve in worship or as deacons or elders. The Lord's church needs more qualified men to serve as elders and training should begin at an early age. Serving the Lord in the capacity of an elder is one of the better ways to help the kingdom.

**If I Could Start Again,** I would be more longsuffering with my brethren. As I have dealt with people (and I'm concerned here with Christians and members of the congregation), we have to deal with all levels of Christian maturity. We must be patient and longsuffering many times with our fellow brethren. We must be willing to go the "extra mile" and give brethren time to consider what was said or done. Often this may result in correction, but many times brethren will begin to see themselves and their problem if given the proper amount of time. Patience must be developed and is absolutely necessary in dealing with brethren. Amazingly, if only we would "wait on the Lord" and allow His providence to work, many problems that we face would be resolved.

**If I Could Start Again,** I would emphasize the Christian Life. I truly believe "the Christian life is the best life we can live here on earth." Looking back over the years and observing the problems of both Christians and those non-Christians, I can make that statement with great confidence. This doesn't mean Christians never have problems, but in comparison to those in the world we have far fewer. I have observed those with a life of service to God versus those with

a worldly life of serving the flesh with all the temptations that bring eternal destruction and physical pain. After serving the Lord for all these years as an elder, and as an older man who has seen many worldly problems among people, I can make this statement: "The Christian life is the best life." May we all strive to live faithfully to the Lord.

CW

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answered (Matt. 7:7; 2 Tim. 3:16).

I can't imagine my life without being in ministry, I wish I had started sooner. I encourage every Christian to find a ministry and serve: a food pantry, prison ministry, nursing home visitation, grief support and care, building and grounds, fellowship, or something within your personal strength.

**Thirdly, I would have become a missionary sooner.** It only took one mission trip for me to recognize "my calling" (that is, what I truly wanted to be doing for the Lord), and that was serving as a missionary. That decision provided many opportunities to preach and teach the Gospel in countries I would have never gone to otherwise. The impact it has had on my Christian worldview is priceless (Gal 3:28). I thank God He allowed me to do that work.

Looking back, I wish I would have started sooner. There was no reason I couldn't have gone on a short-term mission trip earlier; there, indeed, were opportunities. Had I entered the mission field sooner, perhaps I may have accomplished far more work for the Lord's kingdom than I did. So, if you are a new Christian and able, I strongly encourage you to go on an evangelistic, foreign mission trip. It can be life-changing in how you view the world!

Did you happen to notice a pattern in my list here? It is the recurrence of the word "sooner." That's the real lesson, "Do it sooner rather than later." We are not promised tomorrow (Jas. 4:14). Yet, despite my tardiness, there is one thing I now know with certainty: everything happens in God's timing. We can't change the past. We can only learn from it. Looking back, I'm thankful God was longsuffering with me and I get to serve Him now!

CW



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# "To Know Jesus and...make Him known"

## From the Director's desk



Trent Kennedy  
*Director*  
SWSBS

If I could start again...that is a thought that we've all entertained at one point or another. For many, the realization that they need a fresh start is brought about by godly sorrow (2 Cor. 7:10) or a traumatic event (cf. Job 1-2) or burning in their bones (Jer. 20:9) or a spiritual realization (Acts 19:18-20). These types of experiences have one thing in common, they make us look to our Creator and give thought to our latter end (cf. Ecc. 12:1-14). In times like these, an individual has an opportunity for an exponential growth because his heart has been cultivated in humility and is prepared to "take heed how you hear" (Luke 8:18).

However, faith can only grow through the knowledge of God's Word (Rom. 10:17) because it is through the Word of God's grace that one is built up (Acts 20:32). It is the gospel that gives us stability to grow and progress (Rom. 16:25). That is the ground that we need for a fresh start, stable ground where we can root down and produce fruit (Col. 2:6-7). There is a New Testament principle that one must be care how they build on that foundation (cf. 1 Cor. 3:10). This is where a faithful Bible School like SWSBS can come into play. Are you looking for a fresh start? Is there someone you know who wants a career change to one with eternal benefits? Can you think of a brother or sister who would like to grow exponentially in their knowledge and faith by dedicating two years of their lives to the full-time study of the Scriptures? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, reach out to me. I can't think of a better fresh start than enrolling in SWSBS.

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