

N O V E M B E R 1 3 2 0 2 1



Look straight ahead, and fix your eyes on what lies before you. Proverbs 4:25 (NLT)

Thought for today...

At school I was an avid sports fan - netball, table tennis, badminton, rounders, athletics - I was pretty much keen on anything except hockey (after too many hits, my ankle bones pleaded with me to cease this activity).

Although my school days have long since passed, I can still recall with clarity something that my gym teacher said during netball practice. She instructed my team to stop passing the ball to each other where we were standing and waiting (and more often than not, waving our arms around shouting “pass it to me!”).



She advised that unless we were holding the ball (and therefore required to be stationary), we should be on the move. The person holding the ball should anticipate where other team mates were **going** to be and throw the ball to them there. The onus was then on the person set to receive the ball, to ensure that they reached the point where the ball was going to be, in time to catch it! This strategy (which likely changed the outcome of our future games), challenged us to stay focussed, alert and on the move and saw my team transition from playing in a haphazard and chaotic fashion, to playing with cohesion and foresight.

In the Book of Judges we read of a man named Gideon who, lacking in confidence, was hiding and considered himself to be the least in his father's house (**Judges 6:15 NKJV**). Despite knowing how Gideon viewed himself, but knowing who He had created him to be, the Lord 'threw the ball' to where He had called Gideon to be, calling him 'mighty man of valour' (**Judges 6:12 KJV**). It was then for Gideon to 'catch' the vision of who he already was, as opposed to who he felt he was and to come into alignment with God's word.

Despite having questions, Gideon was subsequently convinced that he had been called by the Lord, and so began moving into position to 'catch' God's plan and purpose for his life. **'Then the Lord turned to him and said, "Go in this might of yours, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites. Have I not sent you?"** Judges 6:14 (NKJV).

In addition to saving the Israelites from the Midianites, God had also purposed for Gideon to destroy the altar of Baal and cut down the wooden image that was beside it **'... But because he feared his father's household and the men of the city too much to do it by day, he did it by night.'** Judges 6:27 (NKJV).

Despite being afraid and so using the cover of night to hide, Gideon nonetheless began in obedience to **'press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus'** (Philippians 3:14 KJV), so that He might accomplish his Kingdom assignment.

How are we positioned today - are we allowing God's Word to inform us of who we are? Although we may have questions and lack confidence, let's move into position and be ready to 'catch' His will, purpose and assignment for our life.

