



Thursday Thought

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“Welcome to Adulthood!”

Thursday, June 15, 2017

Verse for the week: Proverbs 22:3 (NLT) “A prudent person foresees danger and takes precautions. The simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences.”

I’ve heard the saying repeatedly, “ignorance is bliss!” The term bliss means; “perfect happiness; great joy.” I can honestly say that I didn’t have perfect happiness or great joy when I was pulled over for speeding where the speed limit was only 45 but I thought it was 60. I didn’t have perfect happiness or great joy when I had to go to court and then pay a fine in a county two hours away. People use “ignorance is bliss” to excuse not knowing things they should, like:

- the speed limit
- what our children are doing
- how to do a task
- where political candidates stand
- a deadline
- what’s on a test
- why you should believe in and follow God

Eventually we find out that what we don’t know can hurt us. Ignorance really isn’t bliss, it’s stupidity, laziness, or just being irresponsible. Responsibility is what our parents, teachers, employers, and pastors work at developing in us. Responsibility is an expectation of being an adult. When we become responsible, we realize that we have an incredible brain that’s been given to us and that we need to use it. Being responsible also means that ultimately, we answer for ourselves. This means we can’t afford to sit back and claim ignorance. We must educate ourselves! I should have been observant and taken the time to know what the speed limit was so I wouldn’t have gotten a ticket. Parents need to take the time to be involved in their children’s lives and communicate with them. People need to take the time to learn how to do things, even if it means watching a YouTube video. Students need to pay closer attention in class. We need to take advantage of the wealth of educational material out there. And on top of all that, James 1:5 (NLT) says, **“If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you.”**

As an adult, it may be easier at the moment to say, “ignorance is bliss” but the reality is, that doesn’t work. It didn’t work when I stood before the judge and it won’t work for you because in the United States it’s assumed we have learned to be responsible by the age of 16 or so. We may not like it, but it’s time to stop making excuses, and start being responsible before it’s too late.

Question to ask yourself: In what areas of your life are you relying on ignorance over being responsible?