

# The Faith Script

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**For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and *attitudes* of the heart.  
Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)**

[Prayer Wall](#)

## Where is Pharmacy Going?

I have enjoyed my pharmacy career. I believe that an outsider looking at my professional career would suggest that I have had a great career and I would agree that I have been blessed. At the same time I know that I have had setbacks and uncertainties that, at least temporarily, have caused me to wonder what is going on and why is it happening? In fact, I recently found myself facing another professional setback, at least in my eyes. As I thought about my situation, I reflected on conversations and e-mails that I have had from pharmacists who were not happy in their current pharmacy situations. A recent e-mail from someone reacting to my May Editorial in Pharmacy Times said in essence: I agree with your position that pharmacy needs a new practice model, but I don't see how it can happen in my current situation. I am 60 years old and I no longer enjoy going to work to practice pharmacy.

I know that there are many pharmacists in a similar situation, perhaps even Christian Pharmacists. What pharmacists in such a situation need is a change in perspective. Christian Pharmacists need to try to see things from God's perspective. We need to remember Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you"—[this is] the Lord's declaration—"plans for [your] welfare, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope". If God wants to bless us and we don't feel we are being blessed, does it mean we are in the wrong place or are we looking at our current situation from the wrong perspective? That requires self-examination and willingness to do something about my current situation.

Let me share how God recently spoke to me as I wondered what was happening to my career. He brought to mind two scripture passages that reminded me that He is still in control of my situation and I just need to be faithful doing what I am now doing while I wait for Him to reveal His will for my future. I have been reading through Psalms and when I came to Psalms 127:1; "Unless the lord builds a house, its builders labor over it in vain; unless the Lord watches over a city, the watchman stays alert in vain" As I read the verse I substituted career for house and city to remind myself that my career was in God's hand and whatever happened to it was because God wanted that for me.

Then God showed me through a study of Ezra that I have been doing with one of my accountability groups that he was in control of all things so I didn't need to fear about my situation. Chapters 4 to 6 describe how God facilitated the reconstruction of the temple and even used non-believers to make it happen. The construction had come to a halt as we read in Ezra 4:24-5:2 until God sent his prophets Haggai and Zechariah to get the people's attention and refocus them on the job at hand. Later we read in Ezra 5:6-10,17 how He used the non-believing local officials, who at first tried to stop the construction, to later get behind the construction. In Ezra 6:1-3, 6-8 we see how God even used the unbelieving King to fund the construction. If God can do that and He has great plans for me, why should I fear what is happening in my pharmacy career? God is

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still in control and He has unlimited resources at His disposal to make good things happen for me.

So as a Christian Pharmacist facing professional uncertainty remember who is still in control. Also remember the promises He has made to you. Then you can wait with anticipation for the blessings He has promised you. Finally, remember that God's timing is not our timing, so His answer may not come in our time frame but it will come in His perfect time. Remain faithful doing what He has you doing until the blessing comes. I have also learned through my more than fifty years in pharmacy that those blessings may come where I am because my attitude changed rather than my situation changed.

Fred Eckel, President  
Christian Pharmacist Fellowship International

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