



During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. Acts 16: 9-10

Question: How do you respond when God, or life itself, changes your plans? This question is relevant to everyone in the practice of pharmacy, because at some point in your life, God or life, will suddenly and unexpectedly change your plans for your day, maybe even for your life.

There is an old "Peanuts" cartoon strip. In the first panel Charlie Brown says, "I learned something in school today, I signed up for folk guitar, computer programming, stained glass art, shoemaking and a natural foods workshop."

In the second panel he says, "I got spelling, history, arithmetic, and two study periods."

On the third panel Charlie's friend asks, "So, what did you learn?"

Charlie says, "I learned that what you sign up for and what you get are two different things."¹

Welcome to life, Charlie Brown! What you sign up for and what you get are often two different things. So how do we respond to unexpected changes and disappointments? How we respond depends on our trust in God and our commitment to place our life in God's hands.

How we respond to these unexpected moments, those closed or opened doors, says a lot about our belief in God, and it says a lot about how God can use us to accomplish His will.

Anne Graham Lotz, the daughter of Billy Graham, once wrote that when she faces a difficult situation or a closed door, she does not ask God, "Why?" It does not do any good to ask why, she says. Instead, she asks, "What are you trying to teach me through this, Lord?" Certain things we have to trust to faith. We have to leave them in God's hands and trust God's goodness.

God's ways are higher than our ways, and God's thoughts are higher than our thoughts. If you are waiting around for God to answer why, you can become bitter and withdraw from God. But if you change the question to "Lord, what are you trying to teach me through this," you remain open to God's Will. Like Anne Graham Lotz, we can know that God is still working in every circumstance, no matter how strange or painful it may seem at the moment.

As Paul tells us in Acts 16:9-15, we are God's partner in spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ. When Paul dreamt of a man from Macedonia begging for help, he and his companions headed straight in that direction. They ended up in the city of Philippi. And they set out to find a group of Jewish men to share Jesus' message. And once again, God changed their plans.

Paul and his men, instead, came across a small group of women gathered by a river, praying. Was this really God's big mission opportunity for them? After all women ranked

low in power and standing in their society. However, God works through all kinds of people and circumstances.

God cannot do much with a life that is not committed to Him. God cannot do much with believers who do not see every moment of their lives as an opportunity to do the work of Jesus in all circumstances. There is a thought-provoking quote you may have seen circulating on social media. It says, “Those who put everything in God’s hands eventually see God’s hand in everything.”²

That is what Paul and his companions did—they put everything in God’s hands and saw God’s hand in everything. At the end of the Acts scripture, Lydia and her entire household were baptized that day. Lydia started a small Christian church in her home, and it was from this small outpost in Philippi that the message of Jesus spread throughout Europe, to the U.S., and, finally, to us today.

It is amazing what God can do with just a few committed men and women. God does His greatest work through ordinary people like you and me. If we really believe that, we will live in constant hope and expectation and joy. God places His greatest opportunities right in front of us, in the ordinary circumstances of our daily lives. Do you expect God to work through you?

Keith W. Allhands, CPFI Board Member
Bennington, Indiana

1. “In Today, Already Walks Tomorrow” by Joseph N. Hankins, Vital Speeches of the Day, October 15, 1997, p. 24.
2. Guideposts Editors. Mornings with Jesus 2020 (p. 28). Zondervan. Kindle Edition.

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CPFI 2022 Annual Conference & National Student Retreat

Theme: **‘Praising our God with Thanksgiving’**

“I will give you thanks in the great assembly; I will praise You among many people.” Psalm 35:18 (NKJV)

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June 1 to June 5, 2022

Annual Conference:
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'Praising our God with Thanksgiving'

*"I will give you thanks in the great assembly; I will praise you among many people."
Psalm 35:18 (NKJV)*

Covid-19: CPFI and Bonclarken have established procedures to help address Covid-19 concerns.
Visit <https://www.cpfi.org/annual-meeting>

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13.25 hours of ACPE approved continuing education offered.
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Registration has closed.
Send email to office@cpfi.org for more information.

COVID-19

Bonclarken's safety measures.

COVID-19

CPFI's Recommendations



Are you a pharmacist interested in Emergency Medical Response?

Samaritan's Purse is actively seeking to hire pharmacists for the on-call international Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART).

See the most recent field hospital in Ukraine in [this video](#), and [learn more](#) and apply on the website.



CPFI Prayer Ministry
Join us Sunday, June 12, 2022, at 5:00 PM ET!
(Second Sunday in June)

The CPFI Past Presidents Committee was asked to implement a prayer ministry on behalf of CPFI. In March 2020, we started a weekly Prayer Meeting on Sunday evening at 5 p.m. ET, initially to pray about Covid-19 needs. In August 2020, we began meeting monthly on the 1st Sunday of the month. If you would like an invitation, e-mail Nena Lindrose at Office@cpfi.org. She will send a reminder e-mail with instructions on how to join and some suggested prayer concerns during the week prior to the meeting. We hope you will join us **Sunday, June 12, 2022**, for our next session. By signing up you are only committing to participate when able and praying out loud is voluntary.
Fred Eckel, Past President

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