



“THINK BEFORE YOU ACT”

Dr. David H. McKinley

“With thoughtless and impatient hands, we tangle up the plans the Lord has wrought. And when we cry in pain, He saith, ‘Be quiet, child, while I untie the knot.’”

“Measure twice, saw once.” —Carpenter’s Adage

“The wise are cautious and avoid danger; fools plunge ahead with great confidence.” Proverbs 14:16 (NLT)

Far too many of us are living proof of *The Domino Effect*, plunging through life.

“A prudent person sees trouble coming and ducks; a simpleton walks in blindly and is clobbered.”
Proverbs 22:3 (The Message)

Many of us have heard someone say, “Don’t just stand there, do something!” Don Seymour, a seasoned missionary, rephrased this and said, “Don’t just do something, stand there.” In other words, think before you act.

HOW TO STAND AND THINK BEFORE YOU ACT

Ask these questions:

• Am I standing by my priorities?

“Don’t let the world around you squeeze you into its mold.” Romans 12:2 (Phillips)

• Am I standing on the lessons of history?

“We live life forward, we learn life backwards.”

“Your willingness to learn from and adjust to the lessons of the past will determine how far you can travel into the future.”

“People who accept correction are on the pathway to life, but those who ignore it will lead others astray.”
Proverbs 10:17

• Am I standing still while allowing time for change?

“A period of hesitation can make all the difference in solving problems and advancing efforts.”

• Am I standing out, willing to be different?

“Every time a paradigm is broken, it is because someone was willing to rethink the process before repeating the action.”

“Only simpletons believe everything they are told! The prudent carefully consider their steps.” Proverbs 14:15

• Am I standing tall with determined focus and resolve?

“Great people are just ordinary people with an extraordinary amount of determination.” —John Maxwell

“So don’t get tired of doing good. Don’t get discouraged and give up, for we will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time.” Galatians 6:9

• Am I standing up, true to my character and convictions?

“He who walks with integrity walks securely, but he who perverts his ways will become known.”
Proverbs 10:9

• Am I standing above, keeping the best of life in view?

“Your life today is the result of your thinking yesterday.”