



## Part 2: When God Says, “STOP”

Nate Gill – September 10, 2017

People of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus from Nazareth was a very special man. God clearly showed this to you by the miracles, wonders, and signs he did through Jesus. You all know this, because it happened right here among you. **Acts 2:22 (NCV)**

- Stop signs are meant for safety, not inconvenience.

### What does God tell me to stop?

#### 1. “Stop thinking that way.”

Do not be shaped by this world; instead be changed within by a new way of thinking. Then you will be able to decide what God wants for you; you will know what is good and pleasing to him and what is perfect. **Romans 12:2 (NCV)**

Brothers and sisters, think about the things that are good and worthy of praise. Think about the things that are true and honorable and right and pure and beautiful and respected.

**Philippians 4:8 (NCV)**

#### 2. “Stop talking that way.”

When you talk, do not say harmful things, but say what people need – words that will help others become stronger. Then what you say will do good to those who listen to you. **Ephesians 4:29 (NCV)**

Set a guard over my mouth, Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips. **Psalms 141:3 (NIV)**

#### 3. “Stop acting that way.”

The “night” is almost finished, and the “day” is almost here. So, we should stop doing things that belong to darkness and take up the weapons used for fighting in the light. <sup>13</sup>Let us live in a right way, like people who belong to the day. We should not have wild parties or get drunk. There should be no sexual sins of any kind, no fighting or jealousy. <sup>14</sup>But clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ and forget about satisfying your sinful self. **Romans 13:12-14 (NCV)**

## How can I benefit from God’s ‘Stop Signs’?

### S. Slow Down.

The Lord is not slow in doing what he promised—the way some people understand slowness. But God is being patient with you. He does not want anyone to be lost, but he wants all people to change their hearts and lives. **2 Peter 3:9 (NCV)**

Enthusiasm without knowledge is not good. If you act too quickly, you might make a mistake. **Proverbs 19:2 (ICB)**

Slow Down – Slam Breaks – Run It

### T. Turn Off Distractions.

I am saying this to help you, not to limit you. But I want you to live in the right way, to give yourselves fully to the Lord without concern for other things. **1 Corinthians 7:35 (NCV)**

So let us run the race that is before us and never give up. We should remove from our lives anything that would get in the way and the sin that so easily holds us back. **Hebrews 12:1b (NCV)**

No Distractions – Some Noise – Totally Distracted

### O. Open My Eyes.

Keep your eyes focused on what is right, and look straight ahead to what is good. **Proverbs 4:25 (NCV)**

Wide Open – Auto Pilot – Asleep at the Wheel

### P. Proceed with Confidence.

With every step you take, think about what he wants, and he will help you go the right way. **Proverbs 3:6 (ERV)**

In Christ we can come before God with freedom and without fear. We can do this through faith in Christ. **Ephesians 3:12 (ICB)**

Confident – Nervous – Terrified