

Does It Ever Become Routine?

Do you ever experience complacency in your routine pursuits, be it at home, or work, or elsewhere? If we're not careful, even while ministering at Next Step, we can become complacent in our routine efforts. And yet complacency is not really an option as we are called to "work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men... [we] are serving the Lord Christ (Col. 3:23-24).

So how can ministry work become complacent? Obviously, our administrative tasks can be routine, and such tasks are not typically at the top of our list of desirable things to do. Yet God has equipped us to do this work, and to do it well so we must always guard against complacency.

Could we become complacent in our discipleship efforts? Consider the weekly studies, conducted every Tuesday and Thursday. That sounds like it could lead to complacency. So we take into account the subject matter of these studies. We have the privilege of preparing and teaching God's Holy Word. We recognize the opportunities we have to explain the Word of God and the manner in which it can be applied to our lives. We consider the "students" and the purpose of this ministry. This is a group of men, all made in God's image, all loved by their Holy Father. Yet we know that not all will be doers of His Word, and this can be disappointing, but knowing who we serve, and knowing that His Word does not return void, the work does not become routine.

And what about those times when God's Word becomes meaningful to these men, and it becomes the worldview from which these men live? There is great joy and enduring encouragement. We are humbled by the privilege we have to minister to these adopted sons. Praise be to God for the transformational work He is doing and the abundant joy He brings through this work! Because of this, we will always guard against becoming complacent.



Glorifying God While Honoring His Ministry

*Shout for joy to God, all the earth
Sing the glory of His name;
Give to Him glorious praise...
Come and see what God has done,
He is awesome in His deeds
Toward the children of man.
(Psalm 66:1-3, 5)*

We invite you to "Come and see what God has done"or to at least read about what God has been doing at Next Step Ministries.

We are excited to announce that Next Step Ministries was selected as one of four finalists for the 2022 Hope Awards for Effective Compassion. This award, sponsored by World News Group (wng.org), honors organizations that demonstrate the power of effective compassion by fostering change through personal, challenging, Christ-centered help to those in need. One organization is selected from each of four regions throughout the United States; Next Step Ministries was selected as the southwest regional winner.

A more complete description of the Hope Awards can be found in World Magazine, either in the print or on-line editions. World's report on Next Step Ministries as well as the other three regional winners can be found at the World News Group website, at wng.org/2022-hope-awards.

You will see that God is doing some amazing, transformational work through these other three, small ministries around the United States.

While it is an honor to be selected for this award and recognition, it is always our ultimate goal that God be glorified by the work of this ministry. We recognize that it is through the revelation of His Spirit that the concept of Next Step was birthed.

We give Him thanks for the numerous and abundant provisions that have made the on-going functioning of this ministry possible.

While we grieve the circumstances that have led to the need for this type of ministry, we are privileged to work with those that God leads to Next Step for help. And we "shout for joy...and sing the glory of His name" as we celebrate the transforming work He performs in the hearts of those we serve.

Can You Join Us?

Can you partner with us in the work of the Lord in Next Step Ministries?

Prayer is an essential part of the ministry. Please pray for the men in this program. Pray for those leading the discipleship efforts. And please pray for our provision.

Volunteers make up a vital part of the ministry. There are many different levels of commitment, in many different areas of need. For more information, please visit our website, nextstepnm.com/volunteers.

To continue this work, your financial support is an on-going need. Please pray about donating to Next Step. Donations can be made via the mail or through our website at nextstepnm.com, and please remember that a Paypal account is not required to make a donation. Thank you for your consideration!



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AWARDS**
FOR EFFECTIVE COMPASSION

