

Let's Talk CHANGE DEVOTIONALS



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IT'S JUST AN OPINION

Dr. Vanessa Dantzer Ussery | April 26, 2017

Time ago, someone asked me the question, "Why do you ask others their opinion before you make a decision?" At the time the question irritated me. I think it struck a nerve because it indicated a lack of confidence within me that perhaps I did not want to face. I felt it was good to poll others first to see if I may have missed something. I would refer to Proverbs 11:14, "Where no wise guidance is, the people faileth; but in the multitude of counselors there is safety." Truthfully, I was not always speaking to those who were experts on the matter in question, so I was not properly applying this scripture. I would ask family and friends for their opinion about certain things before doing it.



Asking other's their opinion is just that, an opinion. The definition of the word 'opinion' is a personal belief or judgment that is not founded on proof or certainty. It is important to understand that opinions are not always facts, whereas facts can be one's opinion. When we put too much confidence in opinions we are subject to make false conclusions and even experience negative results. The word 'fact' is defined as a statement of assertion of verified information about something that is the case or has happened. Facts outweigh opinion all the time.

Some opinions are based on biased views where facts are not biased. In the court room facts are accepted not opinions when weighing a case. Furthermore, the court requires experts to give their views on matters as they are deemed as knowing more about the matter than the average person. Often, we get opinions from others who have little or no experience on the matter. So, when we need to make clear decisions about things, it is okay to get opinions but be sure to gather the facts before drawing a conclusion. Our most reliable expert is God who knows all the facts about everything. Remember God knows the end from the beginning. Decisions based on hearing from God are not based on opinion.

"If you fuel your journey on the opinion of others you are going to run out of gas." - Steve Maraboli. The fact is other's views are just an opinion. We don't want to end up stranded because we took off fueled by opinions. We must fuel our mind with facts before we decide. God can direct us to the resources (person, place or thing) needed to gather the facts to make sure our decisions will bring forth a winning finish!

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