

SIGNS

By Jerry Peak

I usually take one of the local freeways to work. It's the quickest and easiest way to get there. I try to leave early enough in the morning to miss the heavy traffic, when things slow down and accidents can happen.

One morning, however, I got out of the house later than usual and ended up in congested traffic. As I merged onto the freeway, I thought about my scripture study that morning. I had had the impression that I focus too much on worldly things and not enough on spiritual things. As I drove to work, I thought about how I could be more attentive to spiritual things throughout the day.

Then I noticed a message on one of the large electronic signs over the freeway that alert drivers of accidents or road conditions. As I got closer, I read, "Crash ahead at Mesa Drive—center lane blocked." I didn't want to be inconvenienced by having to get off the freeway, so I wondered how long I could stay on the freeway before I *had* to exit.

Then another thought came to my mind:



I wondered how many times I had pushed aside my spiritual safety because I was focused on worldly things.

If I ignored the sign, could I be putting myself in a situation that would be dangerous? Was I ignoring a warning just because I didn't want my schedule disrupted? Clearly, I was inclined to ignore warnings of my physical safety; how often I had pushed aside promptings for my spiritual safety?

As I pondered about how to be more attentive to the Spirit, I realized that Heavenly Father probably sends me many messages throughout the day. I wondered how many times I had missed His messages because I wasn't listening for spiritual promptings. I committed to do better.

I checked the traffic, changed lanes, and took the next exit. By using the city roads to get to work, I was able to avoid all the hazards and dangers of staying on the freeway as the accident was cleaned up.

I know that the Lord loves me enough to send me His messages. I simply need to be in tune with the spiritual promptings He sends me. ■

The author lives in Arizona, USA.