

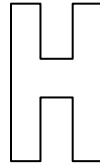


## ***P-A-U-S-E Before You Act!***

**Calvary Baptist Church**

**Feb. 26 and Mar. 4, 2012**

**Proverbs 18:13**



- I. **P – Pray (Mt. 26:39)** Have I taken this matter to the Lord in prayer and have I waited for His leading? Prayer Can Stop Us, Start Us, Steer Us.
- II. **A – Attitude (1 Sam. 25:17; Prov. 3:7; 14:16; 16:32; 22:24; 25:28; 29:11)** Have I waited until my emotions and my spirit are in check before I act?
- III. **U – Understand (Proverbs 18:13)** Have I taken the time to get an understanding of the matter from every angle, every perspective?
- IV. **S – Sin (John 18:10-11; Mt. 26:51-52; Luke 22:50-51)** Has God revealed that the action I am about to take is wrong?
- V. **E – Effect - Have I thought through the effect(s) that will result?**
  - A. **Have I Considered the Effect Upon My Savior? (Ps. 78:40-42; Titus 2:14; Eph. 4:30; John 11:35; Rev. 5:6; 1 Thess. 2:11-12)**
  - B. **Have I Considered the Effect Upon Sinners?** The world is watching.
  - C. **Have I Considered the Effect Upon the Saints?**
    1. **The Effect of a Positive Example (Titus 3:8; 1 Jn. 4:20-21; Heb. 10:24)**
    2. **The Effect of a Poor Example (Rom. 14:13; 1 Cor. 10:32; Rev. 2:14; Jm. 3:2; Mt. 18:7; Rom. 16:17; 1 Tim. 4:12; Gal. 6:7-10)**
- D. **Have I Considered the Effect Upon Self?**
  1. **The Effect on My Reputation (Prov. 4:18; Eph. 2:10; 5:8; 1 Thess. 2:12; 1 Pet. 2:9)**
    - Will I diminish my influence by this action?
    - I can't imagine anything that is much worse than to speak and people just completely ignore what you say.
    - Your life has outshouted your lips!
  2. **The Effect on My Reaching Others (Testimony) (Mt. 5:16; Phil. 1:20; 2:14-16; 1 Peter 2:12)**
    - Will my ability to speak for Christ be silenced?
  3. **The Effect on My Relationship (with the Lord) (Acts 7:51; 1 Thess. 5:19; Heb. 3:10, 17; 1 John 1:5-7)**
  4. **The Effect on my Record (Mt. 12:36; Rm. 14:12; 2 Co. 5:10)**
    - Do I want this on my record when I stand before the Bema Seat?

## **5. The Effect on My Regard of Self (Ps. 51:3; Ez. 20:43; Mt. 26:75; 27:3-5; Heb. 12:17; Ps. 51:17)**

- Can I live with myself after doing this?
- Is this the way that I want to see myself?
- I have been disappointed in myself, and that is almost impossible to deal with humanly.
- But God can help me, if I turn it over to Him!

### **CONCLUSION (Pr. 3:7; 16:6, 17; 17:10; 28:14; Rom. 13:11-14; Pr. 7:22)**

When all is said and done, it will not be whether or not that I have HEARD this message that will bring success to my walk before God and others. It will be whether or not I have obeyed this message.

### **APPLY: I WISH THAT THESE HAD PAUSED ...**

- I wish that Eve had paused before she partook of the fruit.
- I wish that Cain had paused before he allowed his anger to boil over and ending up killing his own brother.
- I wish that Esau had paused before he sold his birthright.
- I wish that Moses had paused before, in his frustration with the murmuring people, he took the credit for the water from the rock.
- I wish that Samson had paused before he yelled to his father, "Get her for me, for she pleases me well."
- I wish that Saul had paused before he consulted a witch and had his kingdom snatched from his hands.
- I wish that David had paused before he ordered that Bathsheba be brought to him.
- I wish that Jeroboam had paused before he decided to take the heavy hand method with the people.
- But I am glad that Joseph did not yield to Potiphar's wife.
- And I am glad that the Bible tells us that David learned to behave himself wisely.
- And so we have a choice! Will we PAUSE?