

Day 43

Do You Hear What I Hear?

Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will direct your paths. Don't be impressed with your own wisdom. Instead, fear the LORD and turn your back on evil. Then you will gain renewed health and vitality.

(Prov 3:5-8)

I love to cut pictures out of the local newspaper.

In Saturday's paper, I found a very special one, depicting a high school freshman as she prepares for a track meet. With shoulder length brown hair, she looks like most runners her own age, thin, focused, intent on the race ahead. Undistracted, her face turned downward, she holds one hand at her right ear. In the other, she carries a tiny radio attached to a fanny pack. Nearby her father, Matt McCarthy, speaks into a small transmitter.

Natalie McCarthy, the ordinary looking girl in the picture, sprints both the one hundred and two hundred meter dashes for her Steilacoom High School track team. It is her almost total blindness that makes her most extraordinary.

So, how does she do it? How does she line up with a group of healthy, sighted teens and dash

By radio.

Natalie runs with a single earpiece in her right ear. With her father's voice coming through the tiny transmitter, she hears the course corrections he gives her from the sidelines. With nothing more than trust, and her father's verbal directions, Natalie runs at full speed toward a goal she cannot see, with competitors she can only hear, over obstacles she can only imagine.

Hers is a perfect picture of our race with Christ. For us, the Holy Spirit directs our race. We face challenges we cannot see. We race for a goal we can only imagine. Though we don't hear our coach through a radio earpiece, the Lord promises over and over that he will guide us. We must trust, as blindly as Natalie does, the whispering in our spiritual ears. We must trust and respond. Change course. Run the race. Your Father is whispering in your ear.

Prayer Ideas:

Consider how often you hear from the Lord during your day. Do you respond to his small course corrections? Have you thanked him for his guidance? Have you asked forgiveness for the times you've chosen to go your own way instead?