

Autobiographical Notes

Typing Class

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The return to the varsity locker room. The folk song sung among an aspen grove. The bicycle ride home and away from temptation. These experiences exemplify how God worked in my early life to protect, mature, and preserve me. He labored in other ways to equip me for my future work and profession as well. For instance, one semester in junior high I somehow found myself signed up for typing class. Typing was definitely not in my plans. And although I earnestly protested taking the class, I found myself sitting on the back row struggling to figure out this illogical key pattern. Each day I became more perplexed as everyone else in the class, especially the girls, seemed to get the hang of this unusual process. I simply wanted out.

Then, a comforting presence came along side me and begin to coach me. This familiar presence continued to impress upon me the need to not only to stay in the class, but to be sure and acquire this valuable skill. As time went on I found myself actually starting to like the class. By the end of the term I was able to type over 40 words a minute without mistakes, an achievement for which I am still grateful to this day.

Why the change in my attitude and ability? The comforting presence of the Lord which met me at the keyboard each class period imparted a confidence and direction that encouraged me to continue even though I did not understand at the time why being able to type would be so important in my life. Today I use computers extensively both for my employment as an engineer, and to write what I am taught from on high.

Though not readily apparent to me at the time, later in my life I became confident that the Lord had His hand upon my life in its many different aspects just as He had in typing class. This is why I wrote shortly after graduating from high school, "I thank the Lord for my future, for He has been in my past." I was confident that I had a future because the Lord had been so involved in the many day to day (mundane) aspects of my life as I was growing up.

As in all things, the Lord knows what is needed in our lives even before we are able to imagine them.^[1] He is there in the midst of our circumstances preparing us for His intended end even though we do not understand His purposes or means of accomplishing His will.

1 Ephesians 3:20