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## Ask Johnnie

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## **Ask Johnnie**

June 30, 2008 | Johnnie Moore

"Dear Johnnie, I'm in college but I just want to get out in the real world and be a missionary. It's so frustrating to sit around and do homework when I'm just ready to go." – Matt

Matt, your passion for God's work is obvious, and He will use you powerfully in His perfect timing, but remember Proverbs 19:2, "It is not good to have zeal without knowledge; nor to be hasty and miss the way."

It's like driving quickly to a place you're vaguely familiar with. It's very easy to speed on past it because you thought you knew the way. Passion can press the gas pedal, but it takes knowledge to get the car to the right place at the right time. This is particularly true of the mission field.

Sometimes in our love for Jesus and desire for the adventurous, we are more willing than we are prepared and we may cause more damage than good. So, I would advise you to be very, very careful in this decision. One thing is sure; you are unprepared for the mission field (all missionaries are to some degree unprepared to live in an alien culture). So, you have much learning to do and the classroom is probably a safer environment than a village hut or Asian high-rise.

At Liberty, we integrate experience with the classroom. Many of our undergraduate missions majors choose to spend a semester or a year abroad on the mission field and learn a language. For more information you can go to www.luglobal.com/luabroad.

"Pastor, I'm very anxious about my life sometimes, any advice?" – Emily

1 Peter 5:7 says, "Cast all your anxiety upon Him because he cares for you."

This is a stunning truth. God cares for you. He really, really does and he gives you the freedom to roll the fullness of your worry upon his divine shoulders. When the weight of the world crowds in around you and pressures push you to your breaking point, remember the one who bore your cross on His back. It is by Jesus' stripes that you are healed and it is by His resurrection that you have hope.

So, hang in there, Emily, and roll the worry on Jesus.

"I was reading the other day in Psalms 37 and it says, 'Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart.' Does this mean that God will give me anything I want?" — David

"Delight" is a meaningful Hebrew word and it is the center of this truth. The word could be translated with a meaning like, "pliable." The Psalmist is essentially saying, "Make your life pliable in the hands of the Lord," like clay in a potter's hand, and then as you are changed through your maker's molding your desires will match His desires for you. Your "wants" will match what He knows you need.

The Rev. Johnnie Moore is campus pastor at Liberty University. Please send e-mail to campuschurch@liberty.edu.