

## All Up in the Air

A national magazine assigned a photographer to take pictures of a forest fire. The editor told him a small plane would be waiting at the airport to fly him over the fire.

The photographer arrived at the airstrip just an hour before sundown. Sure enough, a small Cessna airplane stood waiting. He jumped in with his equipment and shouted, "Let's go!"

The pilot, a tense-looking man, turned the plane into the wind, and soon they were in the air, though flying erratically.

"Fly over the north side of the fire," said the photographer, "and make several low-level passes."

"Why?" asked the nervous pilot.

"Because I'm going to take pictures!" yelled the photographer. "I'm a photographer, and photographers take pictures."

The pilot replied in disbelief, "You mean you're not the flight instructor?"

That's a delicate predicament to find oneself in. When such a dilemma occurs, how do you react?

Prayer is a good answer. At such a time, when life and death can hang in the balance, it is vitally important for a person to have a good belief system. The first priority is to believe in God, and to understand that He has such overpowering love for you, and that He wants the best for His children. Secondly, one should believe in himself or herself and the God-given ability to think and to reason, to calmly assess the situation and to plot a course through it. Finally, believing in the contributions of others – their talents and brainpower and how they can be applied to the circumstances – is a valuable resource.

Even without the flight instructor, the plane will go down. You just want it to be in a safe landing.

--Beecher Hunter