

Remember the Captain

A young ensign had nearly completed his first overseas tour of duty when he was given an opportunity to display his ability at getting the ship under way. With a stream of crisp commands, he had the decks buzzing with men, and soon the ship had left port and was steaming out of the channel.

The ensign's efficiency had been remarkable. In fact, all across the deck, conversations were filled with excitement that he had set a new record for getting a destroyer out to sea. The ensign glowed at his accomplishment. He was not at all surprised when another seaman approached him with a message from the captain.

He was, however, a bit surprised to find that it was a radio message, and he was even more surprised when he read: "My personal congratulations upon completing your underway preparation exercise according to the book and with amazing speed. In your haste, however, you have overlooked one of the unwritten rules – make sure the captain is aboard before getting under way."

In the centers of Life Care and American Lifestyles and in the work of Life Care at Home, we must not forget about pleasing the captain. It's our job to serve and keep the boss happy. And the boss is the resident.

In the spiritual sense, God's manual for life, the Bible, is our set of instructions for getting our lives under way. A good principle to follow is: If at first you don't succeed, try reading the instructions.

But we must never become so bound to the book that we forget the Author of it and the relationship He desires to have with us on the voyage.

--Beecher Hunter