

The Lamp under the Bed Cover

Recently, I read a story about a professional football player who wasn't very fond of team curfews when they were playing on the road.

So this player developed a routine that he followed whenever his team was in another city. If he wanted to stay out after curfew, he would take whatever he could find loose in his hotel room and cram it under his bed cover so it would appear that he was in his room.

In one motel, however, there was very little in his room that would fit under his bed cover. The only thing he could find that was the right size was a lamp. So, he stuffed the lamp under his bed cover and headed out for an evening's misadventure.

(I think you are getting ahead of the story!)



After a while, an assistant coach came by to do a bed check and turned on the light switch in the player's room. When he did, the athlete's bed lit up like a Christmas tree.

The poor player just didn't think things through when he put a lamp under his covers.

You may be familiar with the Darwin awards given out each year to people who do particularly stupid things. One of the finalists a few years back was a teenager who was in the hospital recovering from serious head wounds received from an oncoming train.

When asked how he received his injuries, the boy told police he was simply trying to see how close he could get his head to a moving train before it was hit. He certainly found out.

Some people just don't think things through before they act.

Jesus had such people in mind one day when He turned to the crowd and said, "Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won't you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, saying, 'This person began to build and wasn't able to finish.'

(more)

“Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won’t he first sit down and consider whether he is able with 10,000 men to oppose the one coming against him with 20,000? If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace.”

In other words, Jesus was saying, “Before you do something stupid, sit down and think through the consequences of your actions.” Or, as we would say today, “For heaven’s sake, look before you leap.”

What are some things that matter most to you? Your family? Your health? Your work? Your reputation in the community?

Consider how many tragedies would be avoided if people simply sat down a few moments and thought through the consequences of their actions with regard to things that really matter to them – how many homes would still be intact, how many prison cells would be empty, how many lives would be spared if folks would just think first.

One of the most important thoughts we can have concerns our connection with God. If we are secure in the relationship with Him, that would take care of most of the crucial concerns in our lives.

And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him (Hebrews 11:6 ESV).

– Beecher Hunter