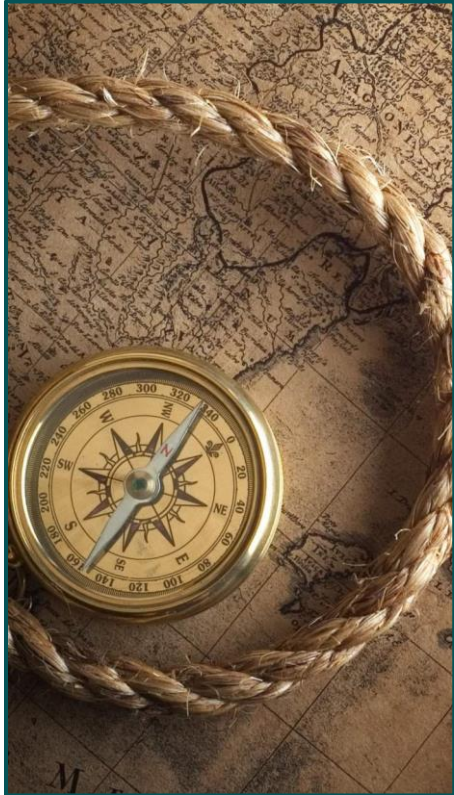


Tossing Aside the Compass

An old sailor repeatedly got lost at sea, so his friends gave him a compass and urged him to use it.

The next time he went out in his boat, he followed their advice and took the compass with him, but he still got lost.



Finally, he was rescued by his friends. Disgusted and impatient with him, they asked, “Why didn’t you use that compass we gave you? You could have saved us a lot of trouble!”

The sailor responded, “I didn’t dare to! I wanted to go north, but as hard as I tried to make the needle aim in that direction, it just kept pointing southeast.”

The old sailor was so certain he knew which direction was north that he stubbornly tried to force his own personal persuasion on his compass. Unable to do so, he tossed it aside as worthless and failed to benefit from the guidance it offered.

Life Care seeks to navigate through demanding, sometimes troubling, waters. To help us, we have a “compass” to guide us. It is called *our Mission and Values* statement. Everything we do should line up with its principles. Our policies and procedures lend further support. We should acknowledge them and heed their directions.

In the spiritual realm, God’s Word is our compass. We should use it on a daily basis to check in, to make sure that we are going in the right direction.

Stubbornness – like that of the sailor – and busyness can take us off the course, but God’s Word is right there waiting for us to return.

Don’t be afraid to ask God for directions.

Whoever gives heed to instruction prospers, and blessed is he who trusts in the Lord (Proverbs 16:20 NIV).

– Beecher Hunter