

Wednesday Word 7/29/2026

Proverbs 27:23 *“Know well the condition of your flocks and give attention to your herds.”*

When I was in my late 20’s I ran a small construction business that focused on decking, siding, fencing and very small remodels. I started this business in 2006 just a few years before the recession in the late 2000’s. For this business I used a 16-foot cube van to haul materials and tools. It was a great vehicle for this type of work.

After a few years of owning it, my brake pads started to grind, and I needed to replace them. I thought I would save money and do it myself. Well, this van had dual wheels in the rear and required different pads and also a brake bleeding system I had not worked with before. I spent an entire day replacing the pads and when I was finally done, I was a bit confused on how to bleed them. Apparently, I did not do them right because I had real issues with the brake compression and really had to press hard on the brake to get it to slow.

One summer morning I was driving to the job and turned east at the top of Military Hill (Right by Sunrise Baptist if you are familiar) and headed down. As I eased into the brake pedal to slow to a safe speed, I realized my brake pad had absolutely no effect. I pressed harder, but nothing was happening. I pulled the emergency break and that also had no effect. I began to climb in speed with a 12 thousand (or more) pound van.

The phrase is true when they say your life flashes before your eyes— mine did. I began to pray louder than I ever had before and as I careened down this hill I just locked in and steered the van all the way. By a miracle of God alone, I was able to steer all the way to the bottom, somehow slow to a stop where the road meets 162 into Orting, and stop and collect my thoughts. To this day I do not know how I did not top out at over 100 MPH going down; I do not know how I didn’t lose control and crash; I don’t know how not one car was in front of me or passed me coming up. It was a complete miracle.

I think about this event, and it makes me both grateful and anxious because if I would have just done the maintenance correctly, I would never have had that “near death experience.”

I have learned since, and I feel it applies spiritually, to do proper maintenance and upkeep both on vehicles and our spirits. To make sure our spirits are free from attitudes, anger, grudges, pride—anything that will cause us to fail to function for Jesus.

Let’s consider ourselves and this lesson this week!

I love you and God loves you!

Pastor Eric Lundberg