**Brakes**

Brakes are one of the most important safety features on your vehicle, so it's crucial that you keep them well maintained and stay on top of any repairs.

Surprisingly, brakes are one of the most important safety features while fulfilling your God mission. Undoubtedly, this is a wonderful and exciting time to be alive and a part of what God is doing! We have embarked on this F.A.I.T.H. journey (Fabulous Adventure In Trusting Him). The momentum is moving forward and the temptation is move full speed ahead. While there are times when this appropriate, there may be times when you need to apply your brakes.

Be Still – “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”  
Psalm 46:10

Step out of the traffic! Take a long, loving look God, the Most High God - above politics, religious institutionalism, above everything.

Retreat - “Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.”  
Mark 1:35

Retreat is often necessary before you advance. Be intentional and strategic in planning retreats for yourself and your leadership.

Ask – “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and it will opened to you; for everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened....”  
Matthew 7:7-8

Ask God for direction and protection. Ask God to make His timing known to you. Doing the right thing at the wrong time makes it the wrong thing. Ask God for provision. When God gives vision, He gives provision.

Know – “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.” John 10:14

Spend time with God. Spend time in His Word. Spend time in conversation with Him, being sure to listen. Stand firm in your faith and know that you know that you know. If it makes perfect sense...it may not be God. When God gives you revelation, ask Him for confirmation, so that you will know.

Expect – “Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.”  
Mark 11:24

Ask God, believe, then expect the unexpected! God doesn't always answer prayers the way we expect Him to answer (i.e. we ask for an oak tree, He gives us an acorn). Remember the Word written in Isaiah 55:8, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. He will provide everything you need at the appointed time.

Seek – “But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”  
Matthew 6:33

Relax! Do not be so preoccupied with getting, that you can't respond to God's giving. People who don't know God and the way he works fuss over these things, but you know both God and how he works. Steep your life in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. Don't worry about missing out. You'll find all your everyday human concerns will be met.

Take a P.S.-Pit Stop - card with, also known as a Prayer for Serenity. Let it be a reminder that you are walking with the Trinity! Victory is yours!