

1Co 14:33 For God is not the author of confusion,  
but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

**GOD IS NOT THE  
AUTHOR OF CONFUSION**

# Paul, Pharisee & Son of Pharisee

## ○ Acts 23:6

- But when Paul perceived that the one part were Sadducees, and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, Men and brethren, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee: of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question

## ○ Acts 22:3

- I am verily a man which am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, yet brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, and taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward God, as ye all are this day.

# Paul's Letters in Context

## ○ 2Ti 4:13

- The cloak that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee, and the books, but especially the parchments.

## ○ 2Pe 3:15-6

- And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

Definition in Old Testament

# Confusion

# Strong's #8397

תבל *tebel teh'-bel*

- Apparently from H1101; mixture, that is, unnatural bestiality: - confusion.
- Lev 18:23
  - Neither shalt thou lie with any beast to defile thyself therewith: neither shall any woman stand before a beast to lie down thereto: it is confusion (*tebel*).
- Lev. 20:12
  - And if a man lie with his daughter in law, both of them shall surely be put to death: they have wrought confusion (*tebel*); their blood shall be upon them.

# Strong's #1322

## בֹּשֶׁת *bôsheth bo'-sheth*

- From H954; shame (the feeling and the condition, as well as its cause); by implication (specifically) an idol: - ashamed, confusion, + greatly, (put to) shame (-ful thing).
- 1 Sam 20:30
  - Then Saul's anger was kindled against Jonathan, and he said unto him, Thou son of the perverse rebellious woman, do not I know that thou hast chosen the son of Jesse to thine own confusion (*bôsheth*), and unto the confusion (*bôsheth*) of thy mother's nakedness?
- Dan 9:8 O
  - Lord, to us belongeth confusion (*bôsheth*) of face, to our kings, to our princes, and to our fathers, because we have sinned against thee.

# Strong's #H7036

קלון *qalôn kaw-lone*

- From H7034; disgrace; (by implication) the pudenda: - confusion, dishonor, ignominy, disgrace; (by implication) the pudenda: - confusion, dishonor, ignominy, reproach, shame.
- Job 10:15
  - If I be wicked, woe unto me; and if I be righteous, yet will I not lift up my head. I am full of confusion (*kaw-lone'*); therefore see thou mine affliction
- Ps 88:16
  - Fill their faces with shame (*kaw-lone'*); that they may seek thy name, O LORD

# Strong's #2659

כָּפַר *châphêr khaw-fare'*

- to blush; figuratively to be ashamed, disappointed; causatively to shame, reproach:
  - be ashamed, be confounded, be brought to confusion (unto shame), come (be put to) shame, bring reproach
- Job 6:20
  - They were confounded because they had hoped; they came thither, and were ashamed
- Ps. 35:4
  - Let them be confounded and put to shame that seek after my soul: let them be turned back and brought to confusion (*châphêr*) that devise my hurt.



# Strong's #H3637

כָּלַם *ka'am kaw-lawm'*

- A primitive root; properly to wound; but only figuratively, to taunt or insult: - be (make) ashamed, blush, be confounded, be put to confusion, hurt, reproach, (do, put to) shame.
- Ps 70:2
  - Let them be ashamed (*boosh*) and confounded (*khaw-fare'*) that seek after my soul: let them be turned backward, and put to confusion (*kaw-lawm'*) that desire my hurt.
- Job 11:3
  - Should thy lies make men hold their peace? and when thou mockest, shall no man make thee ashamed (*kaw-lawm'*)?

# Strong's #H954

בוש bu<sup>sh</sup> boosh

- ⦿ A primitive root; properly to pale, that is, by implication to be ashamed; also (by implication) to be disappointed, or delayed:
- ⦿ Ps 71:1
  - In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion (*boosh*).
- ⦿ Gen 2:25
  - And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed (*boosh*).

# Strong's #H3639

כִּלְמָה *kelimmaḥ kel-im-maw'*

- From H3637; disgrace: - confusion, dishonour, reproach, shame.
- Ps 44:15
  - My confusion (*kel-im-maw'*) is continually before me, and the shame of my face hath covered me,
- Is 30:3
  - Therefore shall the strength of Pharaoh be your shame (*bôsheth*), and the trust in the shadow of Egypt your confusion (*kel-im-maw'*).

# Strong's #H8414

תהו *tôhû to'-hoo*

- to lie waste; a desolation (of surface), that is, desert; figuratively a worthless thing; adverbially in vain: - confusion, empty place, without form, nothing, (thing of) nought, vain, vanity, waste, wilderness.
- Isa 34:11
  - But the cormorant and the bittern shall possess it; the owl also and the raven shall dwell in it: and he shall stretch out upon it the line of confusion (*tohu*), and the stones of emptiness.
- 1Sa 12:21
  - And turn ye not aside: for then should ye go after vain things, which cannot profit nor deliver; for they are vain (*tohu*).

# Strong's #G181

ἀκαταστασία akatastasia ak-at-as-tah-see'-ah

- From G182; instability, that is, disorder: - commotion, confusion, tumult.
- 1Co 14:33
  - For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.
- Jas 3:16
  - For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.

# God is Not Author of Confusion

- Corinth church
  - Great talents
  - Great problems
- Limited # of speakers to 9
  - 1 Cor. 14:27-31
- Corinthians not trying to edify, but to show off talents
- God did NOT:
  - cause shame OR
  - cause disputes that lead to riots
- Gatherings should not look like lunatic convention
  - 1Cor 14:23

# God is Not Author of Confusion

- ⦿ Disagreement
  - Allowed
  - Encouraged
- ⦿ Prove all things; hold fast that which is good
  - 1 Thess. 5.21
- ⦿ Should not be stagnant
  - Heb 5:11-2
    - Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing. For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

# God is Not Author of Confusion

## ◎ Be like Bereans

- Acts 17:11

- These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

- Acts 15:1-2

- When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.



# God is Not Author of Confusion

- ◉ Gal. 5:12
  - I wish that those who are unsettling you would castrate themselves! EMTV
- ◉ Gal. 2:11
  - But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed.
- ◉ Mar 10:42-4
  - But Jesus called them to him, and saith unto them, Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them. But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister: And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all.

# Divisive Problems

- ⦿ How does God deal with divisive issues?
- ⦿ Isa 1:18
  - Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

# Divisive Problems

- ⦿ How should we deal with issues, including dogma?
- ⦿ 1 Peter 3:15
  - But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.

# God is Author of Chaos

- Linda McGinn's Dancing in the Storm
  - Chick Christian book
  - Asks:
    - Why are things not ideal for good Christians?
    - WHY were things chaotic?
  - Combines chaos theory with Christian living,
    - Appealing to MIT engineer!

# God is Author of Chaos

## ⦿ Chaos Theory

- Study of systems highly sensitive to initial conditions
  - relativity, quantum mechanics, and chaos.
  - $E=MC^2$
- Henri Poincare-Three body problem
- Edward Lorenz- MIT 1961
  - Butterfly effect

## ⦿ Random vs. Chaotic

- Chaos- Underlying Order in Randomness
  - Changes in Pattern, but is orderly pattern
- Random-Does not change pattern

# God is Author of Chaos

## ⦿ Name 'Chaos Theory'

- Systems the theory describes APPEAR disordered
- Theory is about finding the underlying order in apparently random data
  - <http://www.imho.com/grae/chaos/chaos.html>

## ⦿ Computers

- Thought to be able to map chaos
- Can not!

# God is Author of Chaos

- ◎ “Chaos, irregularity, unpredictability.”
  - *Could it be that such things are not mere noise but have laws of their own? This is what some scientists are now learning. More than that, these scientists are showing how the strange laws of chaos lie behind many if not most the things we consider remarkable about our world: the human heart beat and human thoughts, clouds, storms, the structure of galaxies, the creation of a poem, the rise and fall of the gypsy moth caterpillar population, the spread of the forest fire, a winding coastline...*
  - *The Christian creator Himself is chaos as much as he is order. God is the whirlwind, the fiery destruction, the deliverer of plagues and floods. Apparently to be a creator requires operating in a shadowy boundary line between order and chaos.”*
  - Briggs, John and Peat, David, Turbulent Mirror: An Illustrated Guide to Chaos Theory and the Science of Wholeness,

# 1. Chaos is Raw Material of Life

## ◎ Fears

- Fear of failure—fear of success
- Fear of losing your mind
- Fear of losing your health
- Fear of being taken too seriously
- Fear of not being taken seriously enough
- Fear that you worry too much
- Fear that you don't worry enough



# God works through Chaos

- ◎ *“Chaos is the material from which life is created. Chaos is not the enemy of God and certainly not his antithesis. It is the basic stuff of this creation. Though we cannot predict or explain it, chaos is not entirely random. The unseen conductor of life orchestrates the strains of chaos to create the music our souls long to hear.”*
  - —McGinn, *Dancing in the Storm*, p. 21

# How does Chaos Effect Children?

- ⦿ Legalists cannot allow chaos
- ⦿ Punished for wrong doing, not awarded for new things
  - Too different
  - AC verses MIT
- ⦿ Legalism caused many broken children
  - Now broken adults
    - COGs
    - SDAs

# Chaos in our Midst

- ① 1. Chaos is the stuff of life
  - Not predictable, but not random
- ② 2. Our nature is to resist Chaos
  - Change is pain
  - Change is Change
- ③ 3. We meet God in Chaos and find rest
  - Chaos will always be there
  - How do we handle it?

Just Do it

**Answer to Fear**

# Two Major Ways to Avoid Chaos

## ◎ Blindness

- Don't see the coming change
- e.g. WWCG in mid 90's
  - World Wide News had editorials about no change of doctrine A
  - 9 months later doctrine A would be changed
- Gathered 3 years into 150-page document
  - The “150-page truck”

# Two Major Ways to Avoid Chaos

## ◎ Structure

- Make sure change cannot enter
- e.g. List makers of world unite!
  - List making is not wrong.
    - Can be good,
      - grocery list
      - Feast of Tabernacles
    - Bad when lists become goal rather than tool
    - Bad when we cannot deviate from list
      - the box we cannot escape!

## ◎ Change will happen anyway

# Resisting Chaos

- ◎ Our nature resists chaos
  - *“Change is never easy or comfortable. The rapid change that chaos brings is disturbing to most of us. We feel pain as a result. But by resisting, we oppose God's will and where he is leading us. Just as the butterfly emerges from the chrysalis, we will emerge better on the other side if we accept rather than resist the chaos and that can and usually will bring peace.”*
    - —McGinn, *Dancing in the Storm*, p. 21

# 2. Recognize How You Resist

- ⦿ Structure-Box that Contains us
- ⦿ Coping
  - Blindness
- ⦿ Character responses
  - Anger
  - Complaining
  - Deceit
  - Blame Others, including God
  - Escape
  - Despair and depression
  - Manipulation to “fix things”



# Resistance to Change

- Jer. 7:4-6
  - Trust ye not in lying words, saying, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, The temple of the LORD, are these. For if ye throughly amend your ways and your doings; if ye throughly execute judgment between a man and his neighbour; If ye oppress not the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, and shed not innocent blood in this place, neither walk after other gods to your hurt.
- Israel would not give up worshipping the temple rather than God
- God said to go to Babylon if you wanted to follow Him

# Resistance to Change

- ◎ Structure of split-off's just like before
  - Resistance to change
  - “Peaceful place to meet on the Sabbath”
  - “Do the work of God”
  - “The Ezekiel warning message”
  - “Beyond Today” vs. “The World Tommorrow”
  - Matthew 23

# Judah's Response to Change

- After Babylon,
  - no idols and kept Sabbaths
  - But built the law into an idol
- Talmud meant to help follow God
  - But it hindered following God
- Matt. 23:24
  - Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel.
- Matt. 23:16
  - Woe unto you, ye blind guides, which say, Whosoever shall swear by the temple, it is nothing; but whosoever shall swear by the gold of the temple, he is a debtor!

# Is Repetition Best Way to Learn?

## ◎ Heb. 5:11-13

- Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing. For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.

# Chaos will not be Restrained

## ⦿ Can't eliminate chaos

- “In the mystery of chaos, God meets us and we find rest. No matter how hard we try to eliminate chaos, it is still there. In the midst of that Chaos, God reveals himself. But are we looking for him there. If we keep resisting chaos, we will be resisting God and missing out on what he is offering.”
  - —McGinn, *Dancing in the Storm*, p .21

## ⦿ Ex. 20:19

- And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us, lest we die.

# 3. Abandon Faulty Systems

## ◎ Chaos management

- Abandon your idols
- Jer. 7:4
  - Trust ye not in lying words, saying: 'The temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, are these.'
- Lam 3:22-4
  - Surely the LORD'S mercies are not consumed, surely His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Thy faithfulness. 'The LORD is my portion', saith my soul; 'Therefore will I hope in Him.'

# Removing Idols is Painful

## ⦿ Disillusionment

- We will never be perfect
- Don't let perfect get in the way of good

## ⦿ Doesn't God want perfection?

- Deut. 30:14
  - But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it.
- Gen 1:31
  - And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good.

## ⦿ Good, not perfect

# Does God Require Perfection?

## ○ Deu 30:10-9

- If thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which are written in this book of the law, and if thou turn unto the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul. For this commandment which I command thee this day, it is not hidden from thee, neither is it far off. It is not in heaven, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it? Neither is it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it? But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it. See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil; In that I command thee this day to love the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the LORD thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it. But if thine heart turn away, so that thou wilt not hear, but shalt be drawn away, and worship other gods, and serve them; I denounce unto you this day, that ye shall surely perish, and that ye shall not prolong your days upon the land, whither thou passest over Jordan to go to possess it. I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:



# Story of Job

- Job 1:1
  - There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.
- Job 1:8
  - And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?
- Chaos entered Job's life because he was righteous, not because he was a sinner
- Job 38 and 39 –God brings good and evil

# Story of Job

## ⦿ Job 42:1-5

- “Then Job answered the LORD, and said: I know that Thou canst do every thing, and that no purpose can be withholden from Thee. Who is this that hideth counsel without knowledge? Therefore have I uttered that which I understood not, things too wonderful for me, which I knew not. Hear, I beseech Thee, and I will speak; I will demand of Thee, and declare Thou unto me. I had heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear; but now mine eye seeth Thee.”
- ⦿ God destroyed Job’s structure so he could see God clearly

# Giving up Our Idols

- Pain of Loss
  - Giving up what we love or embrace
- *“A second pain that comes with idol-smashing is simply the sorrow of loss. Our systems of chaos management so permeate our lives that we grow to cherish them. The sorrow of losing them may feel overwhelming. Busyness, schedules, and meeting demands provide an addictive, artificial adrenaline high. New medical research proves that in our society this high becomes so routine that to relax and live at a normal, healthy pace is frightening. Many have attempted to get out of the rat race only to return after a few weeks or months.”*

# Giving up Our Idols

- ⦿ Lists as tools
  - Our feast of tabernacles in TN
- ⦿ iPhone as iDol?
  - Can you give it up for a week?
- ⦿ Are you irreplaceable at work?
  - NO!
- ⦿ Are you irreplaceable in your family?

# Giving up Our Idols

- ◉ Repentance
- ◉ Eccl. 3:1-8
  - To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

# What do people want?

## ◎ Num. 11:5-6

- We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlic: But now our soul is dried away: there is nothing at all, beside this manna, before our eyes.

## ◎ Fire at the start of United

- Had to be quenched to return to the same structure so control could be maintained

# Ecclesiastes 3:9

- Keil and Delitzsch
- *“Since, then, everything has its time depending not on human influence, but on the determination and providence of God, the question arises: “What gain hath he that worketh in that wherewith he wearieth himself?” It is the complaint of Ecc. 1:3 which is here repeated. From all the labour there comes forth nothing which carries in it the security of its continuance; but in all he does man is conditioned by the change of times and circumstances and relations over which he has no control. And the converse of this his weakness is short-sightedness.”*

# Godly sorrow

- 2 Cor. 7:10
  - In fact, to be distressed in a godly way causes people to change the way they think and act and leads them to be saved. No one can regret that. But the distress that the world causes brings only death. God's word
- *“Our attempts to resist it by blindness, ignoring it, elimination, management, and control are worthless—a fool's pursuit. The challenge is to risk the pain of sorrow and abandon our self-created, faulty systems, exchanging them for a dependence on the God of the universe. In the process, we discover peace as life's ebb and flow weave our chaos into a divine tapestry, promising a good result in its finished design.”*
  - —McGinn, *Dancing in the Rain*, p. 80



# The Process of Chaos

- ◎ Chaos creates
  - Beauty
  - Life
  - Growth
  - Prevents stagnation

# Our Walk with god

- ⦿ How do you find path God wants for you?
- ⦿ Sometimes pray wrong door be shut
  - It helped me
- ⦿ Matt. 10:29-31
  - Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.

# Work of God

- ◉ Deut. 6:6-7
  - And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.
- ◉ Isa 29:23
  - But when he seeth his children, the work of mine hands, in the midst of him, they shall sanctify my name, and sanctify the Holy One of Jacob, and shall fear the God of Israel.
- ◉ Eph 2:10
  - For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.
- ◉ John 6:29
  - Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.

One night I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord.  
Many scenes from my life flashed across the sky.  
In each scene I noticed footprints in the sand.  
Sometimes there were two sets of footprints,  
other times there were one set of footprints.  
This bothered me because I noticed  
that during the low periods of my life,  
when I was suffering from  
anguish, sorrow or defeat,  
I could see only one set of footprints.

# FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND

So I said to the Lord,  
“You promised me Lord,  
that if I followed you,  
you would walk with me always.

But I have noticed that during the most trying periods of my life  
there have only been one set of footprints in the sand.

Why, when I needed you most, you have not been there for me?”

The Lord replied,  
“The times when you have seen only one set of footprints in the sand,  
is when I carried you.”



# We Choose our Path

## ◉ James 1:13-7

- Let no one say, being tempted—‘From God I am tempted,’ for God is not tempted of evil, and Himself doth tempt no one, and each one is tempted, by his own desires being led away and enticed, afterward the desire having conceived, doth give birth to sin, and the sin having been perfected, doth bring forth death. Be not led astray, my brethren beloved; Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

## ◉ Deut. 30:19

- I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live

# 5. Let Go of Your Control

- ◎ From Chaos order arises
  - *Learning to handle complexity (of chaos) means learning to live more intuitively, because intuition is the key to making significant changes in complex systems, helping them evolve, and evolving with them.*
    - —Peter Senge, Sloan Business

# Purpose of Chaos

## ◎ Beautiful creation

- “God uses the chaos of life to create something beautiful in the process. As a result, we learn new things, grow in our understanding, and are changed in a way that ultimately benefits us. The Chaos Factor is a friend to be embraced throughout life, rather than an enemy to deny or avoid.”
  - —McGinn, *Dancing in the Storm*, p. 102

# 4. Discover Peace in Process

- ① 1. Jesus alone is perfect
- ② 2. God's standard is perfection
  - Matt. 5:28
- ③ 3. Obtaining perfection in God eyes?
  - Perfection of a mate
  - Perfection of a child
- ④ 4. Salvation places us in the family
- ⑤ 5. Walk the path with God to maturity



# Let Go of Your Control

- Realize it is God who is in control
- Can you step out in faith?
  - Ministers said to step out in faith, especially when it came to the Sabbath.
    - Did they?
- Lack of faith in God because you can't trust Him to steer your walk with Him

# Let Go of Your Control

- ◎ Anakin Skywalker wants more power – more control
  - Swears at his mother's grave he will get more
    - Thus is born Darth Vader
- ◎ Groundhog Day
  - Jerk who becomes self aware. How?
    - Learns doing good is better than being selfish
    - Old man he cannot save
      - Cannot control everything
      - Finds peace

# Let Go of Your Control

- Can't control chaos

- *“Chaos will not be controlled. And our iron-fisted insistence on asserting control not only frustrates us but becomes a hindrance to the subtle order God is orchestrating from the chaos. Rather than acting on some exaggerated sense of responsibility to control the chaos, we should recognize it is our privilege to walk that path of change. The key is allowing flexibility and sensitivity to determine the boundary between our responsibility and the responsibility of others.”*

- —McGinn, *Dancing in the Storm*, p. 111

# Six Stages to Letting Go

- ① 1. Precontemplation
- ② 2. Contemplation
- ③ 3. Preparation
- ④ 4. Action
- ⑤ 5. Maintenance
- ⑥ 6. Termination

# Let Go of Your Control

## ◎ Healthy

- *“Letting go of unhealthy control and giving up this exaggerated sense of responsibility are among the healthiest actions you will take. New possibilities explode on your horizon as your view of chaos shifts. Chaos becomes an interesting acquaintance bringing fascinating opportunities whenever it arrives.”*

○ —McGinn, *Dancing in the Storm*, p. 117

# 6. Options, Choices, Integration

- ◎ Evaluate Options, make choices, and integrate the chaos
  - Chaos will interrupt our plans
  - How do we handle it?
  - An interrupted bike ride

# How to Integrate Chaos

- ① 1. Gather information
- ② 2. Evaluate alternatives
- ③ 3. Make a choice
- ④ 4. Just do it
  - Live with it

# Find Rest

- ◉ Chaos gives birth to order
  - A continuing process
    - Chaos is still there, but we are better
  - We will find rest
- ◉ Gen. 2:2-3
  - And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.
- ◉ Heb 4:9-10
  - Then there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God. For he who has entered into His rest also rested himself from his works, as God did from His own.