

It's Who I Am Catherine Will

In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:6

For two years, I perfected a Southern accent, so now when I talk with someone with that good ol' Southern drawl or even hear it; it is very easy for me to slip back into it. This drives my husband nuts! So when I would have to go to Texas for work he was bummed, not because I would be gone for three or four days (though I'm sure that was part of it), but more so that I would slip back into that accent. As long as I focus and work on my enunciation, I'm OK. If not, Texas Twang here I come!

On one of my trips, I had three eight-hour trainings to facilitate. Eight hours with Southern talkin' people. Do you know how hard it is to not slip into that Southern drawl for eight hours? Excruciating!!! But I did it. The first day down: no accent, two more trainings to go, and I'm exhausted! Day Two begins, still focusing on my enunciation of my words, then two hours into the training (why it took me this long I'll never know). I finally decided, "That's it! I'm not doing this anymore!" (My temper tantrum for the day)

I explained to my class that I was working very hard not to speak in a manner that comes very natural to me and I wasn't going to do it anymore. At first I figured they would think I was a nut job (I would if I was in their shoes.) but they

were very accepting of what I had to say and after that we had ourselves a good ol' time! It was comfortable. It's who I am!

Later that night I called my husband. I figured it would be easier to focus on my enunciation for twenty minutes rather than the eight hours of training. No worries! Five MINUTES, ya'll! With every fiber of my being, I only lasted five minutes. I then proceeded to tell my husband the day's event with my class. He laughed and thought it was cute I tried so hard.

It's hard to become something different than what you are. A sinner, that's who I was, a sinner saved by grace, that's who I am. I'm a child of God. Sometimes it's difficult trying to change my automatic reactions and old mindsets to follow what God wants me to do, but when I stop trying and simply focus on Him, I find I don't slip into my old habits and mindsets.

Question: Where is your focus?

Prayer: LORD, I want so much to please You, but so often I get in the way of accomplishing that. Help me to pay attention when You speak and act on what You have told me to do so I may walk in Your path not my own.