

Do You Need to Check Under the Hood?

One day I was taking my family to the aquarium in Chicago. Before I left I decided to check things under the hood of my car. I found a small leak in one of my radiator hoses. I praised the Lord. Why? Because, if I had not found the leak when I did and had taken an extra hour to replace the hose, then I might have been sitting on the side of the Dan Ryan Expressway, the busiest interstate in the world, in the middle of a tremendous rainstorm at the height of the rush hour in downtown Chicago, at the mercy of any tow truck and mechanic.

Let's turn our thoughts towards the theme of preventive maintenance as a Christian. Are you ready to minister to anyone who comes into your life that needs your personal touch as a believer? You will only be able to lead a person, minister to them, touch them, or whatever you want to call it, as far as you yourself have spiritually grown in your own life. You will never get anyone closer to Jesus than you have yourself. If you have not practiced preventive maintenance as a Christian, then you will fall short in telling others they need a tune up. Another way that we can explain this by way of illustration is to focus on what a new mother needs to do for their child. If you are a nursing mother, if mama doesn't eat good, then neither does baby.

Are you excited about your Jesus? Are you excited about what you believe? Are you excited about your church family? Are you excited as you were the day you became a Christian? Can you without hesitation turn around and easily share what you feel in your heart, because your heart is just bursting at the seams to share it with someone else? Do you need your oil checked? What does your dipstick read? Does it say that you are low on oil, or is everything in fine shape? Do you need a tune up? Here is how you do it. Sit back and close your eyes and think about how much God loves you. Think about where you would be without Him. Think about how He left heaven to come here to be a sacrifice for you, so that you do not need to spend your eternity in hell. Does that mean anything to you? Does it help you to look at others in this world in a different light?

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