



## **WOW: Word Of the Week**

### **Recalibrate**

**April 6, 2022**

Christians need times of devotion and worship, times of reading and prayer, because we must constantly recalibrate our lives. Warning: it is possible to worship, read Scripture, and pray with minimal results! Let's talk about recalibrating the spiritual life!

The old printer in my office cycles periodically through a recalibration process—noisy and frustrating. It takes a lot of time when I am trying to finish a project or print a page that is needed quickly. Two lessons: I learn patience, and I learn that recalibration takes time. Why does my old printer recalibrate? Why do navigators recalibrate guidance systems? Can't my printer work without recalibrating?

More personally, and to our point today, how often are you recalibrating your spiritual life? How? When? Let's start with basics. Why should we recalibrate our spiritual lives? Because systems gradually drift off course and we must establish a fresh point of reference. We need a fresh look, a fresh re-start point, a course correction. Stanley Hauerwas has described the influence of the church in the life of its members as one of shaping us and determining our habits so that the worship of God is unavoidable. He continues by suggesting that when we are genuinely part of the spiritual body of Christ it is impossible for us to be anything other than disciples. Can you see that truth in your own church experience? Sharing worship, fellowship, commitments, and priorities always sends me forth with no option other than to be a follower calling other followers, a disciple involved in making more disciples.

Our goal today—to think, mediate, analyze, grow. Recalibrate! Our time spent with God, as well as our time with one another, should serve to train us and recalibrate us, habituate us, in the ways of Jesus. The life we share in the body of Christ maintains and refocuses our spiritual beings. When a time of worship ends, I am renewed. We are recalibrating our hearts, preparing for effective imprints in the lives of others. Discipleship is normal and natural, easier. What at first feels awkward and unnatural becomes normal (even talking to someone about Jesus!).

May our worship, both individually and corporately, so recalibrate and change us that we cannot help but be disciples as we go forth into the world, disciples making disciples.