



Bible Study
March 25, 2020

Chop Wood Carry Water Teaching Series

Chapter 3
How Much is an Inch Worth?
Hebrews 4:1-2

This chapter is about the choices we make. It is about how important it is to obey when you don't really want to. It's about what you learn after you think you know it all. It shows the importance of surrendering to the one who is responsible to train you and to help you get to your destiny. It's about continuously making small adjustments over time. It's about not ignoring or discounting continuous improvements.

In this chapter, John is eager to start shooting even though he had only been in training a short period of time. He rushed to finish chopping wood and carrying water because Akira had promised that he would shoot today. Eager to shoot, disappointment soon set in when John was informed that the focus would be on standing and drawing motion without shooting a single arrow.

John obeyed, reluctantly thinking I know how to stand and wondering what could he possibly not know about standing? Akira began to gently and persistently adjust John's elbow with every motion, never more than in inch at a time. John asked, "are you sure this inch matters?"

Akira handed John an arrow and said "draw and shoot." As John obeyed, the arrow hit the straw target. Then Akira subtly adjusted John's elbow less than an inch and said "release." As John obeyed, the arrow sailed wide barely grazing the target and disappeared in the forest.

Here are the principles for John and for us:

1. Everything we do matters, no matter how mundane.
 - a. Corona Virus. Just wash your hands regularly, stay six feet apart, and keep your hands away from your face. Just these small things will yield great results over time.
 - b. Spiritual Disciplines. Read three Scriptures every day from three different translations.
2. Inches (choices) separate widely-successful people from everyone else.
 - a. Every single choice, no matter how small, makes a huge difference over time—everything you choose to read, listen to, associate with, or look at.
 - b. What are some choices that you are making or have made that have kept you from God's best for you?
3. Choices are very easy to make. It is easy to choose to do or easy to choose not to do. But, over time your choices will make a huge difference. What choices are you going to make now that will make the greatest spiritual difference in your lives?