



MK Reach

Changing the course of the river

“Whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me. But if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea” Matthew 18:5-6

In colonel Heath Bottomly's book *The Prodigal Father*, he tells the story of when his father took him and his brother to Glacier Park in the Rockies. They climbed to the highest peak and stood, as it were, on the top of the world. They could see parts of four states and Canada.

As the boys looked over the edge, they could see the melting water split below. Some slid off to the west, where it trickled from stream to lake and from river to river and finally reached the Pacific Ocean. A central tributary went straight ahead, where, by way of the Yukon River, it found its way to the Arctic Ocean. And one part slid off to the east, where it finally ended up in the Mississippi River and then emptied into the Atlantic Ocean.

As Heath's father led him and his brothers way, he lagged behind and made his way back to the rushing stream. Then, as he recounted in his book:

I plunged my left hand into the rushing stream...it was ice cold. With all my strength I pushed the stream over to the left. With my flat palm and wrist aching, I pressed the water over to the west and changed its course. I held it there through it fought and burned and ached. I gritted my teeth and pushed it hard.

Heath's father soon arrived on the scene and carried him back to the trail. When they got back on the trail, his father squatted down, looked Heather in the eyes and said, “son, Im proud of you, You're nine years old and already trying to change the world. I watched you. That water was going into the Atlantic and you deliberately pushed it into the Pacific.”

We have an opportunity to influence those around us, especially our peers, either for good or for bad. We must take that responsibility seriously.

FAMILY ME FRIENDS