

Hello my friends. Thanks for joining me at the PUNLA Coffee Table. So, get your coffee or tea. Get comfortable and let’s talk.

Today I want to discuss what I call God’s Plumb Line.

Do any of you know what this is.?

Well this is a Plumb Bob. Plumb means, Straight up and down

What are plumb bobs used for? Well a plumb bob, or plummet, is a weight, usually with a pointed tip on the bottom like this one, suspended from a string and used as a vertical reference line, or plumb-line. It was a precursor to the spirit level and is used to establish a vertical datum or plane. Sorry that’s the engineer in me.



There is archeological evidence that show plumb-bobs have been used as far back as there is recorded History. The evidence shows plumb bobs were used by the ancient Babylonians, the ancient Egyptians, the ancient Greeks and Romans. These ancient societies used plumb bobs to make accurate vertical lines for construction or marking the points of stars and planets. Even today, Plumb bobs are still the most effective and accurate tools for determining a vertical line for construction.

In fact, I use this one. I used it when I built this house to make sure the walls were “plumb” or straight up and down. That makes the house stable and strong.

How does the plumb bob work?

The plumb bob or plumb line employs the law of gravity to establish what is “plumb” (that is, what is exactly vertical, or true up and down). You don’t have to be a physics whiz to understand that a string suspended with a weight at the bottom will be both vertical and perpendicular to the earth. So, it works because of how God designed gravity to work.

A very simple tool which can give a consistent reference between us on the ground and straight up and down.

I first heard this analogy from Pastor Andy Stanley. I was really taken by this analogy. Basically, we can only truly be at peace when we are aligned with God. We need to be in line with God’s plumb line. Once we are aligned with God and His will for us, then we are aligned with God’s Plumb Line. Now we have a reference that we can use to build our life around so that we can be able to interact and build relationships with people on our plane of existence, or here on earth, in our homes, neighborhoods. At work or around the world.

But if we start getting out of God’s Plumb line, it will mess up how we interact with people here on our plane of existence. The only chance we have to have good relationships down here, is when our reference point is stable. Or when we are living on God’s Plumb line.

So let’s explore what this actually looks like.

Let me read from the New Living Translation Proverbs 3:5-6 *⁵Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶ in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.*

Verse 5. – **“Trust in the Lord”** or in Hebrew (b'takh el y'hovah); which literally means to trust in Jehovah. This is more like “our entire reliance upon Jehovah.” Batakh is probably more properly translated, “to cling to,” or “to confide in,” “to set one’s hope and confidence upon.” Total reliance.

When we trust God *“with all our heart,”* we have a plumb line or constant reference point to use in our relationships and interactions down here. God is constant and unchanging so if we are in line with God and His will. Then we will be steady and confident in our relationships with other people.

So if we get out of place. If we drift from God’s Plumb line. We no longer have a stable reference point for our relationships. We can’t help but have more and more conflict with the people down here because we are no longer stable. This is what most people are like here on earth. Our base line reference that we judge life on is a moving target. That is why we are not consistent. One day we react this way and the next we react another way. For example, if someone drops money and you see them do it. If your reference is not plumb with God. You would probably bend down and take the money. They lost it. Finders’ keepers or the like. It benefits you, so even though you know it’s wrong. Your moving reference point lets you choose when you’ll apply what you know is right. What truth is gets shifted to what I think is good for me. But if you are steady on God’s Plumb line, then you know what truth is. You know you have to return the money, because that is what Jesus would do. It’s the right thing to do because you can make decisions that don’t necessarily benefit you here (on this plane) when we are aligned with God on God’s plumb line.

Let me read from the New Living Translation Hebrews 13:5-8 *⁵ Don’t love money; be satisfied with what you have. For God has said, “I will never fail you. I will never abandon you.” ⁶ So we can say with confidence, “The LORD is my helper, so I will have no fear. What can mere people do to me?” ⁷ Remember your leaders who taught you the word of God. Think of all the good that has come from their lives, and follow the example of their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*

Verse 8 is our plumb line because God is constant and forever. He will never fail you. And if you do what is right in the sight of God. In line with His will on this vertical plane, then What can mere people do to you. Your relationships down here have to be better and more stable because everything you do is in line with God’s Plumb line. But again, if we start letting our reference point drift and move because it benefits us, then we will have conflict down here and when we do we no longer have the Truth of God or the assurances of God to give us peace in the midst of trouble down here.

Now many will see the promise in this scripture that God will not abandon us or leave us. In modern language God is promising to “have our back”, “to be there for us” when we need Him most. But we need to remember God’s promises have conditions. Simply because God’s promises not drop us, and never leave us, is contingent upon us not

dropping Him, and us never leaving Him. We have to stay in the relationship, in line with Him to have the benefits of the promise.

Again, when our relationship with God in the vertical plane is stable or on God’s Plumb line. Then and only then can we effectively and peacefully interact with people on our plane down here. Having a stable consistent reference point then we know the truth and what is truly right. So we can consistently apply these things to our relationships here on this plane (hand motion). This won’t avoid all conflicts and in fact you might have more. Because the darkness does not like the light. And being steady, we will shine God’s light at the darkness around us. But you will have peace knowing you are doing right in the sight of God. And the world cannot prevail against God’s truth.

Let me close with a prayer.

Jesus thank you for giving us a Plumb Line reference point to help us know what is truth, what is right. Help us to always make decisions which are in line with you and your will for us.

Help us to apply this guidance to our relationships down here, so we can honor you with our words and actions. I know we will make mistakes, but I pray you will guide and correct us so we can once again align with you.

I pray for the listener. May you speak through this message to those who need encouragement and grace. Show them how to live in line with your will so they may experience this amazing peace which comes from you. And I pray all these things to the Father in your name Jesus. Amen.

Thank you for joining me at the PUNLA Coffee Table. If you liked the message, please click like. And Please Subscribe to our channel. Leave comments here, or our website or mail me. I want your feedback so let me know what you think

See you next time at the PUNLA Coffee Table. God bless.