

Where You Look Makes Difference Throughout Life

By JAMIE BUCKINGHAM

It makes all the difference in the world where a man looks.

When Daddy taught me to drive he drilled into me: "Keep your eyes focused down the road, not right in front of the hood."

I REMEMBER Daddy's wealthy friend who wintered in Florida. He was an infamous driver. One afternoon he pulled out of our country driveway and banged his car into Susie, a mean old cow that grazed in our front yard. Susie turned and kicked the fool out of his car. He apologized to Daddy saying he hadn't seen Susie because he was looking at a butterfly that had lit on the windshield wiper.

This is what happens when you can't get your eyes off the immediate.

I learned this secret when I learned to fly. My instructor used to say that if I spent all my time looking straight down I'd never know where I was or where I was going. The most important factor in visual flying is the horizon.

WHEN YOU line your plane up in perspective to it, leveling the wings and trimming out the nose, you can feel secure in your present situation.

I know an important business executive who spends five minutes each morning just staring out his window at the horizon. He says that concentrating on the purpose of God is the best antidote he's ever found for fuzzy thinking.

One day his secretary came in and caught him staring out the window. She asked him what he was doing. He swung around and said, "Today I have to make a decision that involves millions of dollars. I'm simply broadening my perspective by thinking about the bigness of God."