

Stop!

2 Characters: Person, and a stop/go sign.

Person approaches traffic sign that is showing go. Just before he gets there the sign changes from go to stop.

P: (Addresses congregation) I can't believe this. This happens every time I walk to work. I walk through the green light back there, and as I approach this traffic sign it shows green, green, green, and then every time, when I am only just 20 metres from this light, it goes red. Every time! Without fail.

(Addressing traffic sign) You do this on purpose don't you? Just to annoy me.

Sign: You do realize you're speaking to a stop sign, don't you?

P: Well, I'm obviously not speaking to a go sign?

P: I'm going to give you another chance to do the right thing, traffic sign. When I walk to work tomorrow morning, you are not to go red before I get to you. You are to stay green until I cross over. You got that?!

(Addressing congregation) Hopefully that will get this ridiculous blatantly unfair fiasco sorted out. Sometimes you just have to be firm, strong, assertive to make things happen.

(next morning)

Person approaches traffic sign that is showing go. Just before he gets there the sign changes from go to stop.

P: You are kidding me. Didn't you hear me yesterday? Didn't I say strongly and clearly that you were not to go red when I approached?

S: I'm only doing what I'm programmed to do.

P: Oh, so you are programmed to annoy me, are you?

S: I can only do what I'm programmed to do.

P: That's so typical in today's world. Don't take responsibility, just pass the buck, put the blame elsewhere.

S: Why don't you just walk faster so you don't keep ending up 20m short?

P: No, I shouldn't have to walk faster! That's not comfortable for me. I feel I have no choice but to rebuke you in the name of Jesus.

S: Hey, I can't change what I do, and you can't change what I do. You need to accept that, otherwise you're just going to keep being miserable and cranky.

(Puts hand on person's shoulder) Lord God, give Stephen serenity to accept what he cannot change, give him courage to change the things he can change and which you would have him change, and give him wisdom to know the difference.

P: I can't believe I'm being ministered to by a traffic sign.

S: God can use the strangest things to talk to you.... You can go now.

P: Thanks (more humble tone).

S: See you tomorrow?

P: Sure. (Facing away) I'm going to have to stop speaking to traffic lights.