



Baby Steps: Unseen Path of Transformation

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When a baby takes its first step, does it know that one day it will run, leap, and dance? No, it doesn't. It moves forward with uncertainty, curiosity, and trust in a loving and encouraging presence.

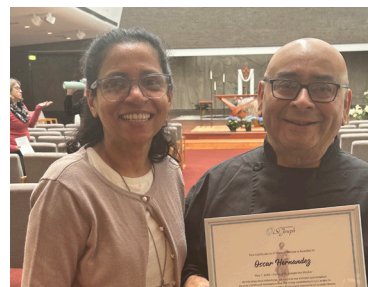
This image stayed with me as I stepped into a new chapter of ministry. During my preparation for final vows, I lived in a retreat house. I felt at home—a sacred space where contemplation and service met. Trusting in God's direction, I accepted the role of Associate Director at The Spirituality Center. It also felt like stepping off solid ground into the unknown.

Almost immediately, I encountered a steep learning curve. The working styles and systems were vastly different from my own. To collaborate effectively, I had to adapt — learning new ways to communicate, adjusting my responses, and embracing unfamiliar technology and tasks. I had to master new technical skills, navigate new equipments, and adapt to a new daily rhythm. To keep from feeling overwhelmed, I reminded myself: **baby steps**.

Five months later, I was asked to serve as Interim Executive Director. With that came greater responsibilities: supervising/evaluating/directing staff, applying for



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grants, making tough calls — all while navigating with a lean team. Some of my decisions rocked the boat, and at times, unpopular: discontinuing a 24-year-old practice of printed program booklet, transitioning to a new CRM system, and moving to a cloud-based platform that enabled remote work. It was a boot camp! Yet I knew these steps were needed for efficiency, growth and sustainability.

A year later, I look back in awe at what has unfolded. The workplace is more streamlined, relationships more enjoyable, systems and processes more efficient. But the deeper transformation was within me. I've been stretched and strengthened, challenged and changed. Each experience has been a sacred invitation to grow in union with God and others.

I am blessed to be a pilgrim on this ever-unfolding journey of transformation. Every baby step is a blessing.



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