



Part 3: Straight & Narrow

Proverbs 3

⁵ Trust 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.

The Problem:

We want our path and God's destination.

We want the benefits of following Jesus without actually following Jesus.

Proverbs 3

⁷ Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil.

⁸ This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones.

Ephesians 5

⁸ For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) ¹⁰ and find out what pleases the Lord.

¹¹ Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. ¹² It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. ¹³ But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light.

¹⁵ Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

TODAY'S TRUTH

Direction - not intention - determines our destination.

Group Guide

Introduction

Most people would say that they want God's will for their life. We want to arrive at the destination that God planned for us. However, we don't always want to walk the path that leads to that destination. We walk our own path while hoping to end up at God's destination. But that's not how it works.

Discussion

Describe a time when you wanted God's will but didn't follow His path?

What were the consequences of taking your own path?

Read Proverbs 3:5-6

What do you think it means that God will "make our paths straight"?

Read Proverbs 3:7-8

What does it mean to be "wise in your own eyes"?

What does it mean to fear the Lord?

What evil things do we try to justify, or make light of, in our own lives?

How can we "shun evil" in our personal life?

Read Ephesians 5:8-17

What parts of this passage stand out to you? Why?

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