

God Has Prepared a Way

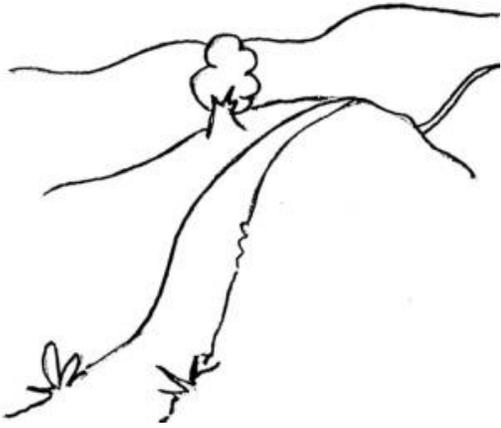
Part 2

5-24-2016

*I am the Way,
the Truth,
and the Life*



John 14:6



God has a special path He wants us to follow. It is a path of His grace, truth, faith and love. He has given us everything we need to walk down that path! He has given us the Bible as our instruction book for the journey! He has



given us God the Holy Spirit to supply the supernatural power to understand the Bible and to carry out the directions. We need the Holy Spirit to direct and steer us! We need a Spirit-directed life! And, we can rest in the truth that as believers we

have it!

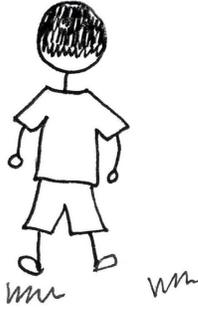
Galatians 5:16 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.





What is a Spirit-directed life? Well, first of all, as believers we are indwelt by God the Holy Spirit. Yes! God the Holy Spirit lives inside of us! He does battle against the flesh because we can't fight that battle and win; only He can! The Holy Spirit, Who began a good work in us, **WILL COMPLETE** it to the day of Christ Jesus. We have to decide every day if we will cooperate with the Holy Spirit or not. We have to decide if we will live a Spirit-directed life! We have to decide if we will walk by means of the Spirit. The Holy Spirit is at work and we are called to participate in His work. We are in a partnership with God the Holy Spirit; it is His workmanship and our walk! He is the Leader and Director!

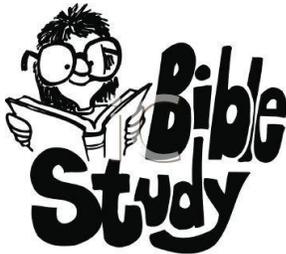
Romans 8:6-9a For the mind of the flesh is death, but the mind of the Spirit is life and peace, because the mind of the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you.



So many times we try to make our own path to follow in life. We forget, or don't really believe, that God has prepared a way for us. We try to direct ourselves! We rely on our thinking and resources* and not on God's thinking and resources! Big mistake! This just leads us down a bumpy path of fear and worry! It's not the path of faith and trust in **God!**

*Resources: a source of supply, support, or aid, especially one that can be readily drawn upon when needed.

Isaiah 55:8-9 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts."



It is most important that we learn God's word and obey Him. The Bible is the word of God! It is the thinking of Christ! God the Holy Spirit and the word of God will take us down the best path for our lives! They take the fear and worry out of our lives. They will direct us!





We may not know what lies down our path of life; it isn't important that we know. **What is important is to know that God has it in His hands!** We have no problems that He can't handle! In fact, we have no problems that He hasn't already handled! We are not to get in His way. We are to



walk by means of the Holy Spirit down God's path for our lives. God has prepared the way and given us all we need to follow His way! We can rest in the knowing that the Holy Spirit is guiding and protecting us! He knows where He is leading us - to be changed into the image of Christ! The Spirit knows how **He will accomplish this and how He will direct it!** In the end it will all bring glory to God!

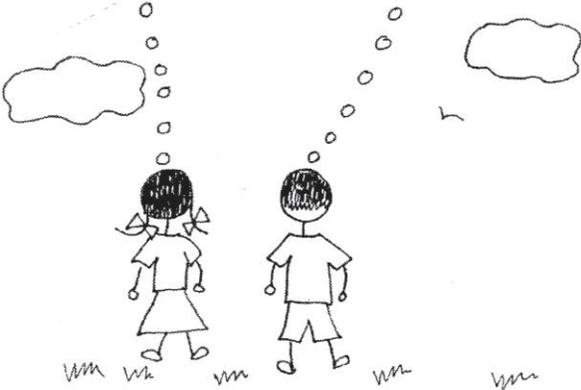


2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.





Along this path, God the Holy Spirit will help us to not carry out the desires of our flesh! Now that is amazing! It is up to us to believe that. Our flesh is **very** strong; however, the Holy Spirit is **all powerful!** He has the ability to fight the flesh and win! It's not our battle; it is His! **Only He** can fight it and win!



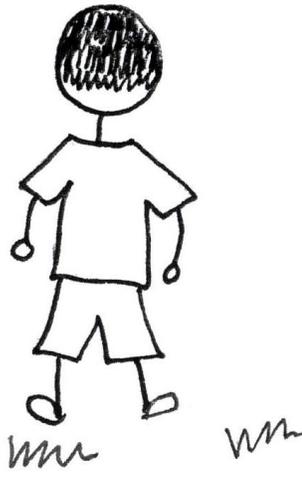
Galatians 5:16-17 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.





The flesh wants us to be self-centered; this is the same as obeying the flesh! It doesn't want us to obey God! It fights to take us down the wrong path! It doesn't want us to rest in the protection of God the Holy Spirit and to be directed by Him.

Colossians 3:8-10 But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old man with its evil practices, and have put on the new man who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him.





Colossians 3:12-13 So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.

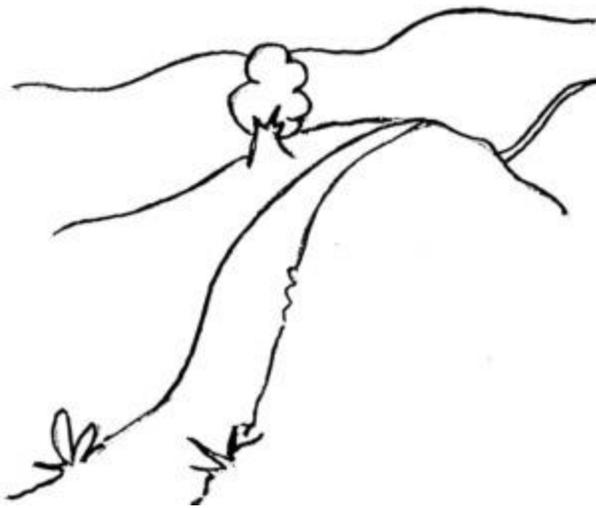
God is commanding us to do this. However, it is not through our power! It is through the power of God the Holy Spirit! As we walk and are directed by the power of God the Holy Spirit down the road of life, Jesus is with us all the way, encouraging us! He lives inside of us along with the Holy Spirit. What comfort we've been given by God!

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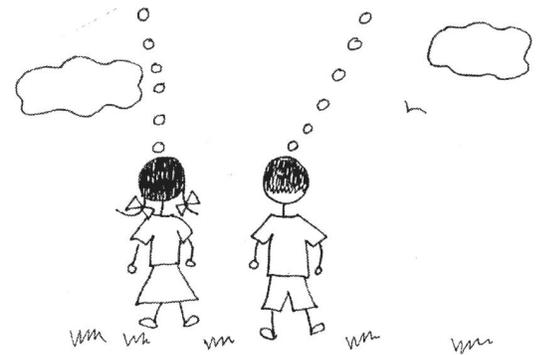
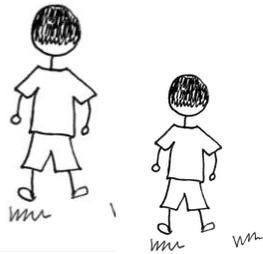


John 14:6

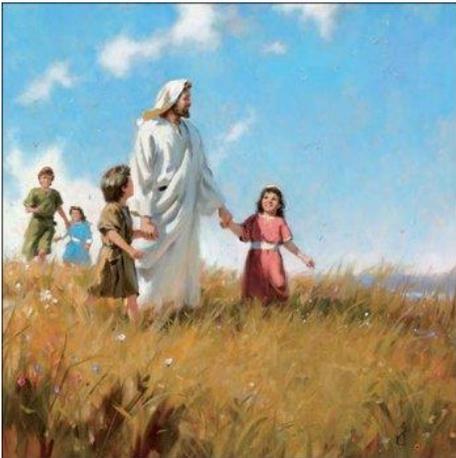




People will be one of the biggest distractions to thinking like Christ and the commands given in Colossians 3:12-13. We can let people upset us! We can judge them! We can gossip about them! We can go along with our flesh and forget who we are in Christ. We are to be aware of this and when it happens hang onto who we are in Christ. Look to the cross and remember what Jesus Christ did **for all mankind!** He showed the greatest love **for all!**



Colossians 3:14 Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity.



2 Corinthians 10:5 (NIV) We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

Take every thought captive to make it obedient to Christ! We have to **be willing** to do this and the Holy Spirit **will make it happen**. He has the power; we just have to want it. We have to accept the fact that we can't accomplish the supernatural without the Spirit! We must have faith and trust in **His ability** to help and direct us! God allows difficulties so we will have our eyes on Him! He builds endurance in us! **FAITH! TRUST! LOVE!**

Isaiah 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

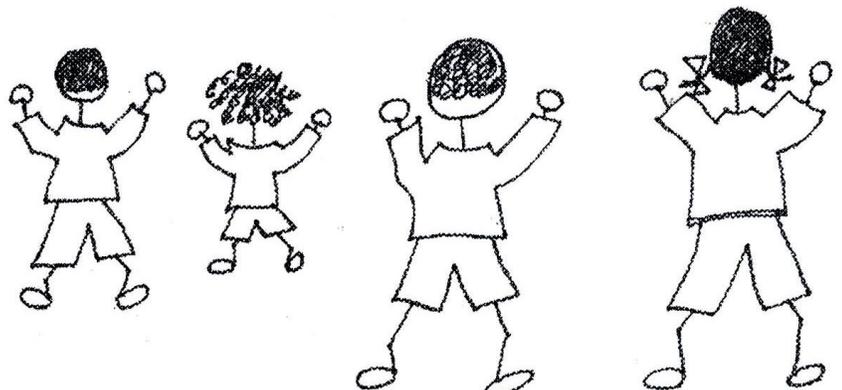
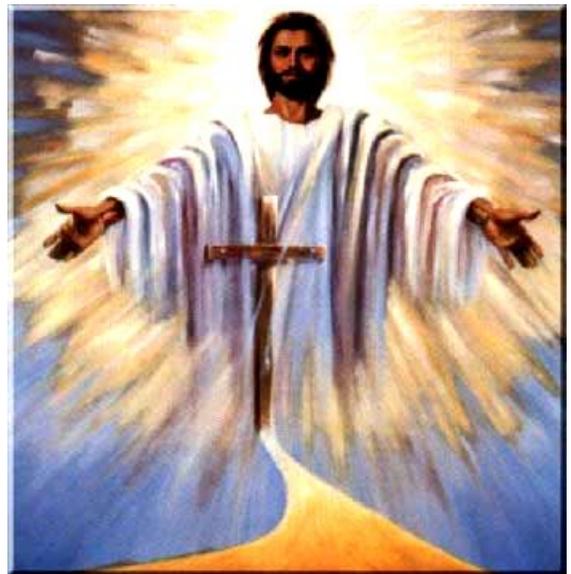


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Of all the many paths in which we might walk, **God the Holy Spirit** knows the divine path planned in advance for each one of us by **God the Father**. God the Holy Spirit has the power to direct us down it; He loves us so much that He will do all things, without violating our free-will, to make our path a reality in our lives. It is the perfect path for each one of us. That is why we should never complain about it; we should never compare our paths to the paths of others - wishing we had theirs. We would be very unhappy with their paths. We are to give thanks to God for the life and path He has given to us! We are to give thanks to God for giving us God the Holy Spirit to direct our lives.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.



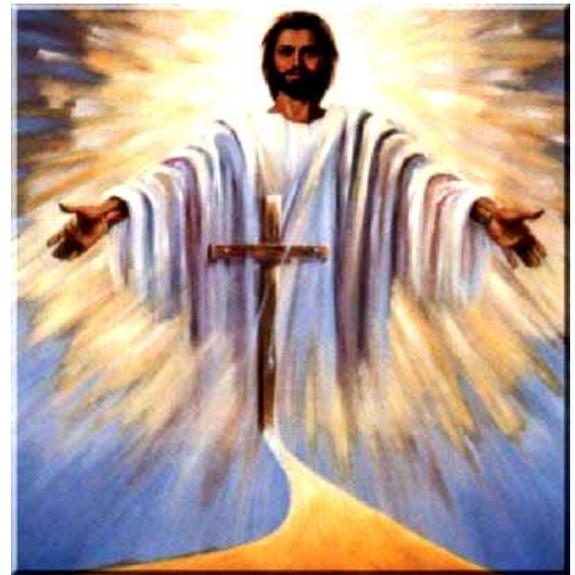
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Jesus Christ followed perfectly the path God the Father had for Him. He came to redeem mankind! He obeyed everything God asked of Him! His path was **extremely difficult**, with many distractions. Yet He did it through the power and direction of God the Holy Spirit and because of His love for God the Father and for us! He was born the God-man, lived, died and rose again. He is now seated as victorious at the right hand of God the Father! He walked His path all the way. He came to show us how we can walk on our path through the direction and power of the Holy Spirit!

John 10:10 "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Galatians 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.



John 16:13 "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth."

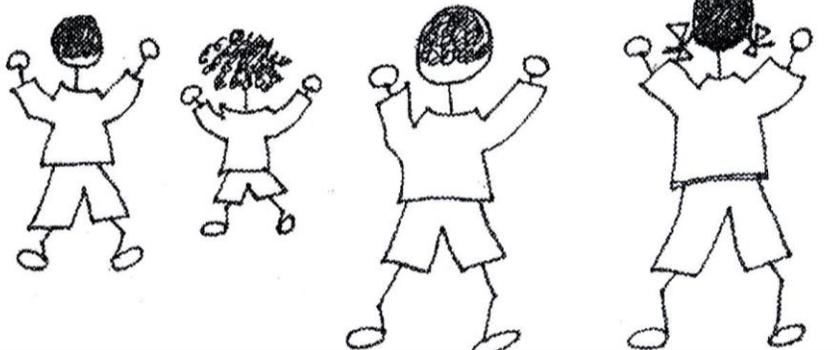
Galatians 5:25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

Galatians 5:16: "I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh."

We must believe that God the Holy Spirit will do all that the Scripture says He will do. He leads, we do not. He teaches, we listen and learn. He empowers, we don't fall back on any human power. We just rest in His guidance and protection! God the Holy Spirit is all love, all truth, all powerful, all knowing, all faithful and many other wonderful things! Do you think He would ever direct us in the wrong way? **NEVER!** We are in a partnership with God the Holy Spirit; we walk and He directs and gives us the power to walk!



Walk by the Spirit is a positive attitude of reliance upon the presence and power of the indwelling Spirit. The heart of the matter remains in the continued dependence upon the Spirit to do for us what we cannot do for ourselves.





1 Corinthians 2:12-13 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.

Dear God the Father,

Thank You for sending Your Son to redeem us and to be the perfect example of how to obey You. Thank You for sending the Holy Spirit to guide and protect us and to give us the power to obey You and to follow the path You have for us. I am extremely thankful for You, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, Father God!

Your loving child,

