

Path Determines Destination

God created us as free moral agents; we choose the path we take in life, for good or for ill. While most of us relish our freedom, the down side is that we must take responsibility for the choices we make. I like the way Joe Fitch put it: "When you choose the road, you also necessarily include the destination."

Most people give little or no consideration to the destination when selecting their path. Immediate gratification clouds our thinking. How much thought do you suppose the Israelites gave to their destination when they started down the path of idolatry and immorality? Even when the prophets warned them of captivity in Assyria and Babylon, the people scoffed. When it finally happened, God's people found themselves being marched off to foreign lands with nobody to blame but themselves. They had unwittingly chose their destination when they selected their path.

God had set before His people a clear choice: obey and live, or rebel and die. Through Moses, God pleaded with Israel: "I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore, choose life..." (Deuteronomy 30:19). Unfortunately, the people evidently thought they could walk the wrong path, but still arrive at their desired destination. It did not work then, nor will it work today!

Actions have consequences; causes produce effects. Sin results in eternal spiritual death (Romans 6:23). No one in his right mind would choose to go to Hell. Yet multitudes make that very choice by selecting the broad, easy way that leads to destruction.

Question: Do you want to suffer eternally in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone? What sane person would answer, "Oh, yes, definitely!?" Instead, we instinctively want to live forever. However, most people reject the narrow, difficult path that leads to eternal life; and in doing so, we reject the destination we claim to seek.

Just before Jesus was crucified, He told his apostles, "And where I go you know, and the way you know" (John 14:4). When Thomas objected that they knew neither where He was going nor the way, Jesus responded, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (14:6). When we choose to follow Jesus, we choose the destination to which He leads (Heaven). Opting to walk some other path involves rejecting that beautiful home of the soul – unintentional rejection, perhaps, but rejection nonetheless. What destination do you want? Have you chosen the path that leads to it?

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Joe Slater
via Broadway Church of Christ
Campbellsville, KY

Good Morning!

Thank you for worshiping with us this morning!

News and Notes

Whitehall Nursery School – There are many items on the "Giving "Tree" in the front foyer next to the library that are needed to help start the Nursery School for the upcoming school year. If you would rather make a monetary donation, please see either Edwina Summers or Dianne Tonkery. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Blood Drive – If you've not yet signed up to give blood, remember the Red Cross Blood Drive sign-up sheet is on the back table. Blood Drive is scheduled for TOMORROW, Monday, the 25th from 1 pm to 6:30 pm.

Covered Dish Luncheon – There will be a Covered Dish Luncheon on Sunday, July 31st immediately following our morning service. Everyone is welcome!

We will not be having evening services on Sunday, July 31st

Church Picnic – A church picnic is being planned for Saturday, August 13th from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM at Wave Tek Park. Lunch will be served at Noon. For more details, see Phil Dotson.

Camping Trip – A church camping trip is being planned for August 19th -21st at Cedar Creek just outside of Glenville. If anyone would like to go, please see Steven or Carla Lough by August 3rd so that they can confirm the sites. Anyone that would like to just go down for the day is more than welcome! Questions, please see Steven or Carla.

Prayer Requests

♥Please keep Darrell Freeman in your prayers. He fell this past week and broke his hip. He had surgery and is now in Fairmont Regional Hospital Also, please keep Doris in your prayers as well.

♥Continue to keep the following your prayers: Becky McCoy, Joan Hall, Edwina Summers, Noah Miller, Jr.

♥Summer Smallwood had surgery this past Monday for cancer. They are waiting for the results.

♥Mary Smallwood is in need of prayers.

♥Martin Dalton had surgery on his cancer and is still in need of prayer.

♥Eddie Swick was not feeling well. Please lift him up in prayer.

♥Savanna Marrow, friend of the Lipscomb family, is in the hospital and Mary Ann has requested prayers on her behalf.

♥Linda Hawkinberry requested prayers for her cousin, Mark Tanner.

Thank you to all who helped with church camp and to those who brought in cookies. You are all greatly appreciated!!