




Message by Pastor Jeff 4-23-17

Message Based Questions to help your personal Study & LifeGroup Discussions

 **CONNECTING:** *Connecting to one another with a warm up question or through worship.*

Have you ever been lost? What happened and how did you feel?

 **EXPLORING IT:** *Review the sermon outline and explore the message by using the following Q's which will help you dig in a little deeper and make sure you get the message.*

*The mission of the church is to transform the world through the life-changing message of Jesus for the glory of God.
By loving God, loving God's people and then loving the world.*

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The "Principle of the Path" says that your "Direction—Not Intention—Determines Our Destination." What do you think this means?

What is the problem with thinking that good intentions will lead you where you want to go?

How would your choices be different if you looked at them as paths rather than just choices?

Have you ever had a time in your life when you had good intentions but a disastrous result? What happened?

Have you ever been told that the path that you are on will lead to a destructive end? If so, how did you respond?

Have you ever wondered why adultery, prostitution and overall sexual sin, is such a good picture of spiritual wanderings?

In what ways spiritually can you relate to Proverbs 7?

Of all the areas such as relationships, finances, spiritual life etc...
Which area would you like to improve most?

Is the path you're on taking you where you want to be in this area(s)?

What is your desired destination when it comes to your career, finances, marriage, kids, or relationships?

What is one thing you will do this week to help you get on the right path?

How can we specifically pray for you today?



PRAY IT: *Now that you have connected, explored and applied it—it is now time to tap into the power of prayer individually throughout the week as well as corporately praying for one another. Perhaps by sharing the real life challenges and blessings with one another this will help people see what God can do in their lives and will lead them into a plan of action.*

Now then, my sons, listen to me; pay attention to what I say. Do not let your heart turn to her ways or stray into her paths. Many are the victims she has brought down; her slain are a mighty throng. "Her house is a highway to the grave, leading down to the chambers of death."
Proverbs 7:27

YOUR CURRENT DIRECTION WILL DETERMINE YOUR DESTINATION. By Andy Stanley

Just as there are paths that have led us to where we never intended to go, there are paths that lead us away from those places too! The principle of the path governs all aspects of life; including dating, marriage, child-raising, our careers, finances, health. Direction, not intentions, hopes, dreams, prayers, beliefs, intellect, or education determines destination. It's so easy to believe that our good intentions will somehow do an end around the decisions that we make on a daily basis. But at the end of the day, the principle of the path determines the outcome. Most people don't fall, fall out of love, fail financially, fall out of a promising career, fall away from God, they journey out of it. You start choosing a path that had the wrong direction all over it, but you ignored all the yield and warning signs..."Do Not Enter!" We don't intend to vier off, ignore the facts and avoid the right path, but our head gets turned, something grabs our attention before you know it, we are off track, headed in a different direction:

- Zero Percent Interest, no money down for thirty years!
- She makes me feel so good...
- But he's rich...

Maybe you are already seeing some decisions you've made, a path you chose that led you to places you didn't want to go. Maybe you see some relational patterns, financial patterns, physical patterns that have left you with consequences you never imagined would be part of your life? Maybe there is a life of regret, and if so, you are already seeing the principle of the path.

SEE, YOU DONT' HAVE PROBLEMS YOU NEED TO FIX, YOU HAVE A DIRECTION THAT NEEDS TO CHANGE.

For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! Romans 5:10

Now is the time to face a new direction. As much as the principle of the path reveals how you ended up where you are, it also offers us hope for our future to end up at a different place. Some of you are so used to making mistakes, that is life for you, it is one problem after another...but the truth is, it's more likely one decisions after another one, one dot and then another dot.

Keep Pressing On!

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