

“THE PRINCIPLE OF THE PATH ”

Summary - March 28th, 2010

Your direction, not your **intention**, determines your destination

We are either **victims** or **participants** in the principle of the path

You often see a huge **disconnect** in people b/w where they want to end up & the path they've chosen

We think intention, hopes, & dreams somehow trump the decisions we make on a **daily** basis

Proverbs 27:12 (NIV) “The prudent see danger and take refuge, but the simple keep going and suffer for it.”

The wise person sees a problem and takes the **appropriate** action

The naïve person sees the problem & says, “Yeah, I should do something about it,” but **doesn't**

You are where your path **led**; it may not have been your intention, but direction determines destination

The “Principle of the Path” Prayer - “Heavenly Father, help me (us) to see trouble coming long before it gets here. Then give me (us) the wisdom to know what to do and the courage to do it.”

In knowing which path to choose wisdom & information **alone** aren't enough, we need **God**

Proverbs 3:5-7 (NIV) “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil.”

We must learn to live with a God component in **every** area and aspect of life

Direction determines destination, but often it is the things or the people that get our **attention** that influence our direction

Psalms 119:35,37 (NIV) “Direct me in the path of Your commands, for there I find delight... Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to Your word.”

Proverbs 4:25,27 (NIV) “Let your eyes look straight ahead, fix your gaze directly before you... Do not swerve to the right or the left; keep your foot from evil.”

2 Questions: What has **captured** your attention? What do you need to **begin** giving attention to?

When it becomes apparent your dreams can't come true, don't try to take **control**; that's the time to **lean** hard into the only One who's ever been in control - God

We must refuse to wrap our **dreams** in God around our personal hopes and dreams

It's God's will, not my dreams, that must be **accomplished**; I must remain **open** to God's will

My Next Step Today Is:

Unless something unexpected comes up, I will attend the new series “Life's Healing Choices”

I want to be in a small group for “Life's Healing Choices” & need assistance finding one