

# 2nd Chance Christian Newsletter

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

## Paths

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Wherever we go in life, we use pathways. They all start somewhere and lead to... well around the next bend, or somewhere else. In Psalm 119:105 God wrote, "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." In this verse, God tells us that His Word is active in two ways. First, it will show you where you stand in respect to Him, and secondly it will show you where you are going. In His desire to have a personal relationship with each of us, He is concerned about the path you travel and where you will end up. God has a lot to say in His Word about our pathways.

In Proverbs 14:12 God tells us, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man; but the end thereof are the ways of death." How many times have we started along a path that we thought was right only to find that it took us further and further in a direction we really didn't want to go? God warns us to ponder, to consider your path and the consequences of it in Proverbs 4:26.

He tells us to stop and think about where we are going and what we are doing! Proverbs 4:11-19 God contrasts the path of righteousness with the path of the wicked. God leads in right paths, in the path of life, in the way He wants you to go, reflecting the Savior more and more (verse 18). The path of the wicked is as darkness, it's like a person stumbling around in the dark. The one path leads to God, the other leads to Hell.

In Proverbs 8:2 the Bible tells us that paths lead us to decisions. We can chose which path we are going to take. In John 14:6, Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me." There is only one path that leads to Heaven and that is through the Lord Jesus Christ. If you have made bad decisions on the path you are traveling, you can change direction and turn your life over to the Lord Jesus Christ. God tells us that if we repent of our sins and confess them

to God, He will forgive us. (I John 1:7-10). We need to see our sin as God sees it and truly be sorry for it. Not sorry that we got caught. Cry out to God and ask Him to forgive and save you. Romans 10:13 assures us that whosoever should call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. We can not earn or buy our way to God for Jesus is the only One who could make the payment for our sin. Ponder the path that you are on!

For those of us who belong to Him, God tells us that we walk this path with Him. In Proverbs 3: 5-7, He tells us that it is walked by faith, trusting that He knows what is best for us. In Psalms 139: 3 God tells us that He surrounds our path, "Thou compasses my path." In verses 5-10, He assures us that He is there wherever He leads.

In Psalms 142: 3 God assures us that He knows our distresses, He cares, "When my spirit was overwhelmed within me, then thou

knewest my path." In Hebrews 4: 14-16 God reassures us again that He not only cares and understands our problems but desires that we take them to Him in prayer. We have no greater friend than the Lord Jesus!

Finally, Proverbs 12: 28 tells us that, "In the way of righteousness is life; and in the pathway thereof there is no death." "For God so loved the world that He gave His only

begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" Romans 6:23. If you have never asked the Lord Jesus to come into your heart and to save you, Please ponder your path today, tomorrow may be too late!

I would like to thank Howard Bacon

from Emmanuel Baptist Bible Church for providing this newsletter.

Many of you know that most people don't look for God until they realize their paths in life are messed up. It doesn't have to be that way. If you know of a lost or backslidden soul please tell them about Jesus in your life.