

Monday 23 May 2022

## Map

### Psalm 119 v 105

Your word is a lamp for my feet,  
a light on my path.

When journeying in the quest to reach a new destination we all depend on a road map, be it a paper one or the Satnav, or satnag as it's often called. But what about the journey of life? Not one of us can say we know exactly where we are headed, never mind reaching a destination. We might think we do, then something turns up throwing us way off course.

Today's reading likens God's word to a lamp for our feet and a light for our journey here on earth. If we pay due attention to God's word the journey of life is an easy path to follow. The problems start when we pay no attention to God's word and follow our own thoughts thinking we know best. Turns out, more often than not that is not the case.

God knows each and every one of us and knows the route we should be following, so it makes perfect sense we should put our trust in him to guide us to our destination.

Lord, thank you for the roadmap of your word that you give to help us navigate the Christian life. Let today's message be a reminder of the path you wish us to follow and not the one we think we should take.

Tuesday 24th May 2022  
Galatians Ch 6 v 4 - 5



**How many of us have thought long and hard about who we are and what work we are undertaking?**

**Do we question how well we carry out a particular task, are we doing them for the right reasons, or has self interest got in the way? Do we constantly compare ourselves to others quite forgetting we have our own talents and are unique individuals?**

How many times have we heard ourselves say 'I never planned it'? This has normally happened when our life takes a turn for better or worse, when we are moving in an unknown direction. Uncharted territory can be a scary place, however today's reading asks us instead of worrying about the direction we are heading in, to consider what God's plans are for us. We should consider if this has been a nudge in the right direction from God to get us back doing his work.

Regardless of what you think, everyone's life has purpose, we are all interconnected. A kind word, a smile, a thoughtful gesture can make such a difference to peoples lives and we do not know the effect that will have on them. Help be part of that difference, indeed it could be your purpose, God's purpose.

Lord help us to find our creative best and learn to live life to the full doing what you intended us to do.

Wednesday 25th May 2022



Today's reading is a potent reminder that when we know the correct thing to do, but fail to act on it we are choosing to go against God's teaching. The verse makes it clear that a refusal to do what's right is foolishness, and we are without an excuse.

Here is an example of bad-tasting coffee to illustrate the insanity of not making the right choices.

Once a month for eight years, a couple on a visit to ageing parents would buy a cup of coffee from a rest stop when travelling. Every trip without fail, the result was always the same—coffee that was bitter, acid-tasting, and overly hot with a burnt smell. You'd think that by the second trip They would know better than to drink the coffee. But silly them, every time they stopped at the service area, they would buy a cup, take the first sip, and then throw it away!

One definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again, expecting to get a different result. Foolishness is a synonym for such madness.



The couple knew the right thing to do, they had choices, including taking a thermos to enjoy while travelling or purchasing coffee from another store. Instead, they failed to act on what they knew, and continued to buy horrible-tasting coffee at the same store over 96 times! They were without an excuse, even though they had high hopes that each fresh cup would taste better, it never did.

An example like this one may seem laughable when compared to the seriousness of going against the teachings of God but think for a moment about the right things we brush off and fail to do daily.

Lord, let this simple example reinforce the foolishness of ignoring your teachings, and cause us to rethink our actions and behave in accordance with your ways and not our own.

Thursday 26th May 2022

Proverbs 11 v 25



**Supporting people through personal problems can require lots of personal energy. It can be draining, it can cause anguish can take a great deal of your time.**

**This bible reading makes it clear it's not something we should shy away from as there is a promise if we help others, we in turn will be supported during hard times.**

**In providing this assistance to someone who is hurting, we are helping someone God has placed in our path, he will ensure we have the means to cope with the situation.**

Friday 27th May 2022

Psalm 37 v 5

Commit your way to the Lord;  
trust in him and he will do this:



How often are we faced with a situation where a choice needs to be made about a course of action to be followed? The problem is you have a firm idea of the way forward however someone else has an equally strong opinion opposing your idea.

Sometimes we try to help God complete his work. We think we know what he will do next so we quickly plunge forward in our puny strength to assist God in his tasks and end up stressed-out often in a situation of conflict which helps no one .

Today's message is to remind us to calm down, relax get out of God's way and allow him to do his work through us as he sees fit not as we see fit.

God is more than capable to handle all of our problems, complaints, tasks, dreams, and more. He desires that we commit these things to him instead of surrendering them one minute and taking them back to handle ourselves the next.

We do need to trust he will deliver the solution to the problem.

Lord thank you for pointing out that we do not need to experience stress and worry when faced with a problem. Remind us not to take matters into our own hands rather allow you to work your solution your way not ours.

Saturday 28th May 2022

## **Job Ch 6 v2**

"If only my anguish could be weighed  
and all my misery be placed on the scales!"



**We all at some point have fallen short of our hopes and dreams as to how our life will pan out. Faced with sudden changes we can all feel out of all kilter with the life we are leading our life is out of balance, it's gone off the tracks.**

Were we to read the book of Job we would learn of a man who feels just like that. He expresses his frustration at his very existence, his life has been thrown into disarray through no fault of his own.

He has some desperate cries to God for help.

However he also reflects about his thoughts, his feelings and past experiences. He seeks the help of God to get him back on track.

When we fall off the rails, no matter the issue or condition we can all follow Job's example if we take time to pause, reflect and request help from God to steer us in the right direction and get us back on track.