
The Principle of the Path 7: Don't Pray About It

The Principle of the Path: How to Get from Where You Are to Where You Want to Be

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POTP #1: The Principle Applies to YOU

1. What You Choose Determines Your Outcome (*Paths lead to predictable places.*)
 2. This Is a Principle (*Applies to everyone everywhere, known or unknown*)
 3. Your Choices Regarding a Principle (*Learn and leverage it; ignore and regret it.*)
 4. The Principle of the Harvest (You REAP what you SOW.)
Gal 6:7-10 ⁷ Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. ⁸ For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.
 5. Results of Embracing the Principle of the Path (*Avoid regret and wasted time*)
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POTP #2: Why Bad Things Happen to Smart People: The Principle Introduced

1. Know the Difference Between Solution and Path (*Quick fix vs time + change of direction*)
 2. What Is Usually Needed: A Change of Direction (*"It will work out somehow"= self-deception*)
 3. Direction –Not Intention– Determines Our Destination
 4. Your Choice: God's Path or Your Own?
 - Ps 17:5 Uphold my steps in **Your paths**, *That* my footsteps may not slip.
 - Ps 23:3b He leads me in **the paths of righteousness** For His name's sake.
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POTP #3: Your Situation Is NOT Unique – DISCONNECT

1. 3 Truths About Getting Lost (Not on purpose | We don't know when | Road, not intentions)
 2. A Look from the Window (Proverbs 7:6-27)
 3. Questions to Ask: *Disconnects in your life? Desires vs doing? Intentions vs direction? Prov. 5:21-23 For the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD, And He ponders all his paths. ²² His own iniquities entrap the wicked man, And he is caught in the cords of his sin. ²³ He shall die for lack of instruction, And in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray.*
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POTP #4: Why Are You Surprised?

1. The Practice of Looking Ahead and Acting on What You See (Prov 27:12)
A prudent [man] foresees evil and hides himself; The simple pass on [and] are punished.
 2. The Truth About Paths and Consequences of Our Decisions
 - a. *Forgiveness changes a relationship, not the outcome*
 - b. *Prayer changes the way forward, not the past*
 - c. *Repentance changes your path, not your consequences*
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POTP #5: Do NOT Trust Your Heart

Our problem: Not "lack of information..."[We're] not on a truth quest [but] a happiness quest." (p. 57)

1. We Lie to Ourselves (p.61)
 2. We Don't Know Where We Are
 3. We Cannot Trust Our Heart (Jer 17:9)
The heart [is] deceitful above all [things], And desperately wicked; Who can know it?
 4. The Truth, Not Our Own Heart, Sets Us Free (John 8:31-32)
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POTP #6: Submit to God

1. The Trouble with Timing (*choices are now; outcomes are later*)
 2. We Have an Independence Problem, not an Information Problem (we're no exception)
 3. We Need God "submission to the One who knows where each path leads" (p.83)
 4. We Need to Submit Our Thinking to God (Prov 3:5-6)
⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.
 5. We Need to Submit to God All Life Long (*God's direction begins w/ unconditional submission*)
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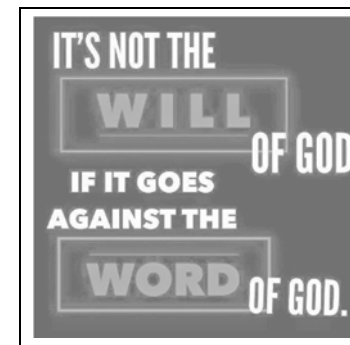
1 Samuel 24:1-15 – Saul's Rest Stop Is David's Chance!

1. Sources for Reasons to Kill Saul

- a. Conventional _____
- b. Crowd's _____
- c. Cultural _____
- d. _____ "from God"
- e. _____ Imperative
- f. _____ Twist
- g. _____ of Behavior

2. Instead of the Above, David Thought About

- a. The _____ of God
- b. The _____ of God
- c. The _____ from God



"One _____ accomplishes the _____ of God by breaking the _____ of God, violating the _____ of God, or ignoring the _____ of God."
(p.109)