

Getting God's Direction For Your Life

Psalm 31:1-5

1. In you, O LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.
2. Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me.
3. Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me.
4. Free me from the trap that is set for me, for you are my refuge.
5. Into your hands I commit my spirit; redeem me, O LORD, the God of truth.

"Into your hands I commit my spirit" – The same words Jesus said while He was on the cross:

Lk:23:46 - Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

If you really want to get God's direction for your life, it starts with absolute surrender to God!

Introduction

Bob Munford tells of a certain Italian harbor that can be reached only by sailing up a narrow channel between dangerous rocks and shoals. Over the years, many ships have wrecked, and navigation is hazardous. To guide the ships safely into port, three lights have been mounted in the harbor on three huge poles. When the three lights are perfectly lined up and seen as one, the ship can safely

proceed up the narrow channel. If the pilot sees two or three lights, he knows he's off course and in danger.

He goes on to say that God has also provided three beacons to guide us. The same rules of navigation apply – the three lights must be lined up before it is safe for us to proceed. The three harbor lights of guidance are

1. The Word of God (Unwavering standard)
2. The Holy Spirit (Inner witness)
3. Circumstances (Divine provision)

Together, notes Mumford, they assure us that the directions we've received are from God and will lead us safely along His way.

Now, you have to first of all truly believe that God even cares about the direction of your life!

And if He does, then you would be a fool to not find out what that direction is!

But the direction you go does matter to God!

Jer. 29:11 - For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Ps. 23:3b - He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

I. Ask Him to Direct and Establish and Prosper your Steps

Ps. 37:23-24 - If the LORD delights in a man's way, he makes his steps firm (Ordered, Established, Prosperous); though he stumble, he will not fall, for the LORD upholds him with his hand.

Pr. 20:24 - A man's steps are directed by the LORD.

Exodus 13:21 - By day the LORD went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night.

When God directs your steps, you have:

A. Protection from the enemy

Exodus 14:19-20 - Then the angel of God, who had been traveling in front of Israel's army, withdrew and went behind them. The pillar of cloud also moved from in front and stood behind them, coming between the armies of Egypt and Israel. Throughout the night the cloud brought darkness to the one side and light to the other side; so neither went near the other all night long.

Ps. 25:4-5 - Show me your ways, O LORD, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

Ask Him to Direct and Establish and Prosper your Steps!

II. Ask Him to Show You How He Has Blessed You through His People

Luke 10:30-33 - In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him.

Ask Him to Show You How He Has Blessed You through His People!

III. Ask Him to Use your Life to Bless Others

You go from being the Blessed to the Blessor!

From being the rescued to the rescuer!

From being the delivered to the deliverer!

From being the friend in need to the friend indeed!

Luke 10:34 - He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him.

Ask Him to Use your Life to Bless Others!

IV. Ask Him To Bring A Sense Of Purpose To Your "Right now" Situation

Eph 1:11 - In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will,

Ask Him To Bring A Sense Of Purpose To Your "Right now" Situation!

V. Ask Him to guide You in His strategies of Blessing and Opportunity

Pr. 16:25 - There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death."

Thank God that George Washington knew where to get his strategy from!

Ask Him to guide you in His strategies of Blessing and Opportunity!

VI. Ask Him to Open Doors of Blessing and Shut Doors of Destruction

Ps 78:23-24 - Yet he gave a command to the skies above and opened the doors of the heavens; he rained down manna for the people to eat, he gave them the grain of heaven.

Gen 19:10-11 - But the men (Angels) inside reached out and pulled Lot back into the house and shut the door. Then they struck the men who were at the door of the house, young and old, with blindness so that they could not find the door.

Ask Him to Open Doors of Blessing and Shut Doors Of Destruction!

VII. Ask Him To Open Your Spiritual Eyes So You Can See All These Things Happening

II Kings 6:16-17 - "Don't be afraid," the prophet answered. "Those who are with us are more than those who are with them." And Elisha prayed, "O LORD, open his eyes so he may see." Then the LORD opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

Sometimes it's hard to see what God is really doing around us.

We live in two realities; the one you can see with your natural eyes and the one you have to see with your spiritual eyes!

You can never make crucial decisions based on what you see with your spiritual eyes!

Ask Him To Open Your Spiritual Eyes So You Can See All These Things Happening!

Conclusion

Now listen, if you're not careful, you will be frustrated out of your mind, trying to figure out the will of God.

If you're not careful, you'll be doing everything but getting into the presence of God and asking Him to show you what His will is

We must learn to listen for the voice, sometimes very gentle voice, of our Father!