

Road Signs for Life Part #1

Modern maps are great tools when traveling to new places - ***The same can be said for our entire life!***

- God has given us a practical life map to live our lives for Him.
- He's pointed to our final destination.
- **The Bible tells us** which roads we should travel.
- ***It explains everything we need to know*** for this trip through life on our way to heaven.

Just knowing the direction, the highways *is not enough*. ***We need some road signs to help us make sure we are headed in the right direction***.

- Another way to say this is – sometimes we need to know “what now?”
- What do I do when I don't know what to do?
- Where do I turn when I don't know what direction to go?

Have you ever been that **frustrated?**

You just didn't know what to do or which way to turn!

In the end the problem was that you were not reading the road signs.
God posts them along our way – but **we must pay attention**.

Today we want to discover together six road signs for life; six specific signs that, if you follow them, will guide you in the right direction – always.

- ***This a 100% guarantee***.
- If you answer these questions and ***follow God's direction you will be assured of the right answer***.
- How do I know?
- Because ***God's Word guarantees it!***

Proverbs 2:9 promises: NIV - Then you will understand what is right and just and fair—every good path.

CIV - With wisdom you will learn what is right and honest and fair.

Did you catch that? ***“You will know how to find the right course of action every time.”***

If you want to make sure you are always going in the right direction, if you want to make sure your decisions are always the best, then ***follow these six road signs.***

The first road sign for life is what we will call - THE DIRECTIONAL SIGN

You've got to be willing to follow the directions and God's Word, the Bible gives all the direction you need!

The first question you need to ask yourself is ***what does the Bible say?***

What does the Bible say about my problem/decision, the choice I need to make?

Does what I am about to do fit into what the Bible says I should do?

Is this the direction the Bible says I should go?

Often the answer to ***that question is obvious.***

- There are some definite things the Bible tells us ***we SHOULD NOT DO.***
- Those are called sin.
- ***Sin is best defined as anything that will hurt you or someone else.***
- If the Bible says no – then I shouldn't.

Also, there are some definite things the Bible tells us ***we SHOULD DO.***

- **The Bible tells me to be kind.**
- The Bible tells me to be honest.
- The Bible tells me to give to God what belongs to Him.

If the Bible tells me to go in a certain direction, I'd better follow that direction.

- **God already knows where my choices will lead me.**
- **He already knows what's going to happen next.**
- **His Word tells me what to stay away from and what to get involved with.**

The Bible is God's direction book, **God's map for our lives.** The more we understand it, the more we follow it, the more our lives will "work".

There's a **whole chapter in the Bible** that deals specifically with ***following God's direction.***

It's no accident that it's the longest chapter in the Bible:

Psalm 119. Listen to some of its advice:

Verse 105 - Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light for my path. God's Word will give us light when the decision seems unclear.

Verse 26 - I told you my plans, and you answered. Now teach me your principles. We may tell God our plans, but He wants us to listen to His principles

Verse 32 - I will run to follow your commands.

Verse 35 - Make me walk along the path of your commands, for that is where my happiness is found. We are happiest when we follow God's commands.

Verse 45 - I will walk in freedom, for I have devoted myself to your commandments. Living by God's commands brings freedom.

Verse 60 - I will hurry, without lingering, to obey your commands. We should not hesitate to follow God's commands.

Verse 101 - I have refused to walk on any path of evil, that I may remain obedient to your word. We should refuse to walk any direction other than where God's Word points.

Verse 133 - Guide my steps by your word, so I will not be overcome by any evil. God's Word will guide our steps if we listen to and obey it.

Every verse in Psalm 119, except two, deals specifically with following God's directions.

Here's the point: If you are unwilling to follow God's Word as the starting point, you may as well forget the rest of the signs.

The road signs will mean nothing if you are going the wrong direction!!!

Road sign 1 – Directional – you have to follow God's directions.

Question: What does the Bible say about my direction, my decision?

**The second road sign for life is what we will call –
THE KEEP RIGHT SIGN. – Honesty, Integrity**

- **Is my choice honest?**
- Would I want others to know that I am going down this path?
- Another word for honesty is integrity.

**If you are heading down a path and you are worried what others might think –
You're probably heading in the wrong direction.**

Proverbs 10:9-10 - ⁹You will be safe, if you always do right, but you will get caught, if you are dishonest. ¹⁰Deceit causes trouble, and foolish talk will bring you to ruin

James 4:17 - If you don't do what you know is right, you have sinned.

The honesty sign asked the question:

- **“Does my public life and my private life match?”**
- **Am I walking on the right side of the road?**

Somehow, we actually think we can make dishonest choices and get away with it.

- We believe we can plant seeds of sin today and not have to worry about them tomorrow.

Galatians 6:7 warns us: ***Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.***

You may decide not to be honest, but you can't drive on the wrong side of the road without eventually getting hit!

Road sign #2 – Honesty – you must stay on the right side of the road.

Question: *Would I want everyone to know that I've made this choice?*

The third road sign for life is –

THE CONSTRUCTION SIGN

Will this decision, will this direction build me up or tear me down? Will it make me a better person?

I really want to be a better person.

- I know what you are trying to say.
- **You want God to do a work in you.**
- You want Him to free you from the hurts, habits, hang-up's, and the problems you are facing.
- You want Jesus to feel closer and have a greater part of your daily life.
- You want Him to make you a better person!

Well, this road sign asks that question!

- While you are asking God to make you a better person
- Are you asking yourself that same question?
- Are you asking yourself if the decisions you are making benefit you?
- Will that decision help get you to where you want to be next?

Will that decision really improve your life? Always Honor God!!!!

1 Corinthians 10:23 says - some of you say, "We can do whatever we want to!" But I tell you not everything may be good or helpful.

CLOSE: Now think for a minute as we close the message for today:

How many decisions did you make this week based on the "construction sign"?

How many decisions did you make when you stopped and asked, "Is this really the best thing for me, for my family, for my testimony to others?"

You see, **We often choose the good and lose out on the best.**

This road sign does not ask what is good to do; there are lots of good things we can do.

This sign helps point us in the direction of what is best!

What good things are you doing that are keeping you from doing what is best?

- Lots of things in life are “OK” but are they best?

Life is far too short to waste on good things when *you could be enjoying the very best!*

The decisions we make should be based on **how they will help us grow.**

Road sign #3 – Construction – it needs to build you up not tear you down.

Question: Will this decision make me a better person?

The other side to this construction sign is also encouraging –
It says we are “under construction”! God isn’t finished with us yet!

You have gotten to this point in your life, and **you are pretty discouraged.**

You haven’t always made the best decisions. As a matter of fact, you would probably say that *you’ve made some pretty bad decisions!*

You haven’t followed the directional sign – *you haven’t listened much to what God has been telling you* in His Word – and **you feel lost.**

You haven’t always traveled on the right side of the road – you’ve made some decisions **that you’re not too proud of.**

You’ve made decisions that have *torn your life down instead of building you up.*

Here’s the good news – *God hasn’t given up on you!* **He’s not finished with you yet.**

He’s *simply waiting for you* to come to him and let Him in the driver’s seat!

Will you come this morning????