

Road Signs for Life Part #2

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.
- The Bible tells us which roads we should travel.

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

- 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?

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.

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

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.

We covered the first three signs last week –

The first road sign for life is - 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!

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.

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

The second road sign for life is – THE KEEP RIGHT SIGN. – Honesty, Integrity

The honesty sign asked the question: “Does my public life and my private life match?”

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

The third road sign for life is – THE CONSTRUCTION SIGN – 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!

The Message paraphrases Jesus’ words in **Matthew eleven**:

Matthew 11:28-30 - “Are you tired? Worn out? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it...I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.”

He has the power to set you back on course to where He designed you to live!

The first three road signs: the directional sign, honestly sign, construction sign.

- Does my decision fit what the Bible tells me I should do?
 - Is my decision honest?
 - Will this decision build me up or tear me down?
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The Fourth road sign - THE NO EXIT SIGN –

This sign asks the question, “Is there a way out?”

- *Will this decision put me into a position where I’m bound?*

Some things seem very attractive, harmless at first – but very quickly instead of us controlling them, they control us!

1 Corinthians 6:12 - Sexual Immorality - ¹² “*I have the right to do anything,” you say—but not everything is beneficial. “I have the right to do anything”—but I will not be mastered by anything.*

“Even though “I am allowed to do anything,”

- ***I must not become a slave to anything.”***

Will what I am about to do become addicting?

- ***Will it control my life?***

It doesn’t matter if it’s “acceptable” for others.

- It doesn’t matter if it’s popular.
- If it’s addicting, if it’s controlling

The Bible says: *“I must not become a slave to anything.”*

You know **the very first command** in the ten commandments says,

Exodus 20:1-3 - The Ten Commandments - And God spoke all these words, saying:

² *“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. ³ **“You shall have no other gods before Me.***

“Do not worship any other gods besides me”.

- He set this as the first commandment because - He knew how easy it would be
- for us to make other gods.
- He knew how quickly we would become addicted to our idols!

An idol can be anything that gets in the way of our relationship to God.

And it’s those things that control us.

The point: You always need to ask the question,

Where will this decision take me? Will it hold me in chains? Will it hold me in bondage?

Road sign #4 No Exit

Question: Is this something that will keep me in chains.

Could this decision lead to addiction?

Now let’s look at the fifth road sign for life: THE SIGHT SEEING SIGN

This sign asks the question – What will others do when they see me? Will what I’m doing hurt someone else?

Whether you like it or not, people are watching you.

- Your spouse is watching you.
- Your kids are watching you.
- Your neighbors, relatives, friends are all watching you.

They often make decisions in their own lives based on what they see you doing.

You don't believe me?

When was the last time you either heard or used one of these phrases?

- "But everyone is doing it?" - "Don't worry, everyone does that?"
- "This product is the most popular..." And those are only three!

People are looking at you and making decisions about what is right and wrong for a Believer to do!

We don't realize that our decisions can have devastating consequences on others.

Romans chapter fourteen tells us,

Romans 14:12-13 - ¹² So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

¹³ Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in the way of a brother or sister.

There is no such thing as "it's my life". Our life affects others and the "sightseeing" sign points us in the direction that says it really does matter to others how I live.

I realized this early on in my life. People I watched Serve and walk away.

Who's watching you? Don't be so quick to answer that question.

You really don't know.

I remember the words of the Apostle Paul, twice he wrote "follow my example".

He had the audacity, the boldness, the courage to tell people to follow his example, why, because he was following Christ's.

1 Corinthians 4:16 “So I ask you to follow my example, and do as I do.”
1 Corinthians 11:1 And you should follow my example, just as I follow Christ’s.

You can’t just live your life for yourself.

You must remember that others are watching you!

Road sign #5 – Sight Seeing – Who’s watching me?

Question: How will my decision affect others?

Now let’s look at the sixth road sign for life: THE PAYDAY SIGN

How will this decision make a difference in eternity?

Is this the best use of my life? What’s the payoff?

You see everything we do eventually pays off.

We quoted it last week, “You will always reap what you sow!” - Galatians 6:7

- Sin pays off, it leads to death.

Romans says, “When people sin, they earn what sin pays, death.” Romans 6:23

- Sin leads to separation. Sin kills our relationship to God.

That’s why we need God’s forgiveness for our sins.

Romans 6:23 “But God gives us a free gift—life forever in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Sin pays what we don’t want to earn. But living for God also pays!

Ephesians 6:8 tells us, “The Lord will reward each one of us for the good we do.”

Hebrews 11:6 says, “Anyone who wants to come to him **must believe that there is a God and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.**”

The payday sign asks the question: Is this the best way to invest my life for eternity?

Ephesians 5:15-17 - ¹⁵ Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish but understand what the Lord's will is.

How will what I am about to do effect my life tomorrow, next year and for eternity."

We all have the same amount of time.

- *We all have only 168 hours in our week, 1080 minutes, 604,800 seconds.*
- *The difference between success and failure in this life is how we invest those moments and who we invest those moments in!*

What has God placed you here on this earth for?

He desires you to live a life that reflects His love, His goodness, and His power!

You only must do what God has called you to do.

CLOSE:

Six Road Signs For Life.

(1) The Directional Sign – What does the Bible tell me to do?

(2) The Keep Right Sign – Honesty, Integrity – Is this the right thing to do?

(3) The Construction Sign – Will it build you up?

(4) The No Exit Sign – Will this trap me and hold me in bondage?

(5) The Sight Seeing Sign – How will this affect others who is watching me?

(6) The Pay Day Sign – Is this a good investment for eternity?

If You follow these six signs and where they point, you will be guaranteed a life that stays on course!

Remember the “under construction” sign?

God isn’t finished with us yet!

- You haven’t always made the best decisions.
- You’ve made some pretty bad decisions that you’re not too proud of.
- 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 –

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????