

G.U.I.D.E. M.E. Lord!

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

How many believe that God has a Divine direction for your life?

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!

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.

A compass is an instrument used for finding direction.

I want to share with you tonight a process for finding direction for your life called G.U.I.D.E. M.E.!

G-ive God the opportunity to make your steps firm!

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 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, order, establish and Prosper your Steps!

CALL on God to make your steps firm!

U-nderstand that others have blessed your life!

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 OTHER people!

I-ntentionally make your life now about blessing others!

You go from being the Blessed to the Blesser!

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.

Illus: Dietrich Bonhoeffer once said "We must be ready to allow ourselves to be interrupted by God. God will be constantly crossing our paths and canceling our plans. . . . it is part of the discipline of humility that we must not spare our hand where it can perform a service and we do not assume that our schedule is our own to manage, but allow it to be arranged by God."

Illus: Martin Niemoller was a Pastor and a relatively high profile opponent of the Nazis as they increasingly gained firm hold of the reins to power in Germany.

He was arrested on 1 July 1937. When the subsequent court appearance was followed by his release with only a modest 'slap on the wrist' Hitler personally ordered his incarceration with the result that Niemoeller remained in concentration camp, including long periods of solitary confinement, until the end of the war.

He later made this very thought provoking statement:

*First they came for the communists, and I did not speak out--
because I was not a communist;*

*Then they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out--
because I was not a socialist;*

*Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out--
because I was not a trade unionist;*

*Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out--
because I was not a Jew;*

*Then they came for me--
and there was no one left to speak out for me.*

Ask Him to make your Life to Bless Others!

D-etermine to pursue the 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,

Illus: Years ago on the Tonight Show, a guest appeared that was a body builder. As he entered the stage with his huge muscular body the crowd went crazy as the body builder began to flex his muscles and show his power. The first question asked of him was this: "What do you use all those muscles for?" Without answering, the body builder again stood up and began flexing his muscles while the crowd cheered wildly. A second time, the question was asked, "What do you do with those muscles?" Again, the body builder flexed his muscles and the crowd became almost ecstatic. After asking three times, "What do you do with all those muscles?" the body builder just sat in silence and had no answers.

The man had lots of power but his power had no purpose other than to show off and bring attention to himself.

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

Pursue it!

E-arnestly ask God 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.

I love this testimony I read about!

Illus: The India Missions Association reported that a musical team from an Indian church traveled to Tikapur, Nepal, to attend a church conference. Hours before they were scheduled to return to India, police arrested the team leader and confiscated their van. Several officers then used the van for a personal trip to Dhan Khadi, 150 miles away. Robbers attacked the

van as it traveled through a forest, the team leader said. They had expected the van to be full of Christians and were planning to kill them and take their equipment, but police jumped out of the van and shot at the robbers, forcing them to flee. "Praise be to God who saved our lives," the leader told the India Missions Association. When he told the Tikapur police chief that God used his arrest to protect the Christians, the chief agreed that the team was blessed and decided to release them. The pastor then preached to the police chief and other officers at the station and prayed with them.

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

M-ove in His strategies of Blessing and Opportunity!

Illus: During the dark days of the American Revolution, when the Continental Army had experienced several setbacks, a farmer who lived near the battlefield approached Washington's camp unheard. Suddenly his ears caught an earnest voice raised in agonizing prayer. On coming nearer he saw it was the great General, down on his knees in the snow, his cheeks wet with tears. He was asking God for assistance and guidance. The farmer crept away and returned home. He said to his family, "It's going to be all right. We are going to win!" "What makes you think so?" his wife asked. "Well," said the farmer, "I heard General Washington pray out in the woods today—such fervent prayer I have never heard. And God will surely hear and answer that kind of praying."

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!

SEEK His strategies of Blessing and Opportunity.

E-ndeavor to sharpen your spiritual senses to know what God is really doing!

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 help you SHARPEN your spiritual senses to know what God is really doing!

Illus: Before refrigerators, people used icehouses to preserve their food. Icehouses had thick walls, no windows, and a tightly fitted door. In winter, when streams and lakes were frozen, large blocks of ice were cut, hauled to the icehouses, and covered with sawdust. Often the ice would last well into the summer. One man lost a valuable watch while working in an icehouse. He searched diligently for it, carefully raking through the sawdust, but didn't find it. His fellow workers also looked, but their efforts, too, proved futile. A small boy who heard about the fruitless search slipped into the icehouse during the noon hour and soon emerged with the watch. Amazed, the men asked him how he found it. "I closed the door," the boy replied, "lay down in the sawdust, and kept very still. Soon I heard the watch ticking."

A lot of times, the question is not whether God is speaking,

But whether we are being still enough, and quiet enough, to hear.

Conclusion:

God's guidance is absolutely necessary to get you where you need to be to fulfill your life's purpose!

God has given us a spiritual compass!

It's His Word!

And we are taught how to use it by the Holy Spirit!

But remember that the only way that a compass can really help you is if you keep it true!

It will always point North!

The North pole doesn't adjust for us, we have to adjust our position to it!

In the same way, God's truth does not adjust for us, we must adjust for it or we will just keep walking in circles!

While you are using your spiritual compass...

Illus: There is 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 unwavering standard of the Word of God
2. The inner witness of the Holy Spirit
3. The Divine provision in your circumstances

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

Everything you see, hear or experience must always stay true to the Word of God, the Inner witness of the Holy Spirit and the manifestation of His Divine Provision!

If not you will fall into deception!