

Salvation and Freedom From Sin’s Slavery

This week – continuing our lessons which teach the almighty saving power of Jesus Christ.

*Jesus said,
 “If any man serve Me, let him follow Me;
 ... him will My Father honour.”
 John 12 v26*

Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Exodus 13v17-22 (The Lord’s Guiding Wisdom)	
Monday	Psalm 119v1-16 (Follow closely in God’s Way)	
Tuesday	Psalm 119v89-112 (Thy Word – a Light to my path)	
Wednesday	Psalm 37v1-11 (Commit thy Way unto the Lord)	
Thursday	Psalm 27 (Teach me Thy Way, O Lord)	
Friday	Matthew 7v13-29 (Only One Way to Follow)	
Saturday	Psalm 23 (The Lord is our Guiding Shepherd)	

Important Lesson for us Today: Guidance – God’s guidance is only for true Christians. It is essential that we seek to live within the blessing of God, through faith and obedience. We must be very careful not to force our own will on the Lord. If we stubbornly persist in going our own way God will allow it, but we will lose His blessing, and we will need to repent and turn back to Him. Some decisions we make can be irreversible – e.g., a wrong choice in marriage. We can repent and know the forgiveness of God, but we will always live with the consequences. So, it is vital that we consider major decisions very carefully in the light of God’s guidance. He has given us clear Biblical principles to follow for choosing:- a course of study, (can I use the subject for God’s glory?); where to study or live, (is there a faithful church in which I can worship correctly and evangelise? e.g. does it preach the Gospel clearly? is there Children’s Outreach Evangelism?); a job, (will it compromise my witness or service, or attendance at church?; should I leave my current church?). **God will bless our sincere prayers for His guidance.**

Hymn 119v1 - Reminding us of the blessings received by those who always seek God’s Guidance.

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| 1. How blest are they who keep God’s Word,
And follow His commands;
With all their heart they seek the Lord,
And serve Him with their hands. | 3. How shall the young secure their hearts,
And guide their lives from sin?
Thy Word the only power imparts
To keep the conscience clean. |
| 2. O that the Lord would guide my ways
To keep His statutes still!
O that my God would grant me grace
To know and do His will! | 5. To think upon Thy precepts, Lord,
Shall be my sweet employ:
My heart shall not forget Thy Word -
My chief and precious joy. |

EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet.

This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible.

Background to Today’s Lesson.

- God’s Judgement, The Angel of Death, had **passed over** the houses with the Lamb’s blood painted on the doorposts and lintel, **but** death struck every home where this was not done. **Pharaoh finally lets God’s People go free.**
- **The Children of Israel, Now Free, Begin Their Journey to Canaan.**
 - They leave Egypt with all their belongings, flocks, and herds, along with all the valuable items given them by the Egyptians. **603,550 men, 2M People - Numbers 1v46.**
 - **A Destination – The Promised Land, ‘flowing with milk and honey’.** Exodus 13 v5,11. Promised by God about 525 years earlier. first to Abraham, Genesis 12 v1-7, then to Isaac, & Jacob.
 - **Under God’s Control** – The Lord promised to be with them, protect and provide for them. They could have full confidence to trust Him throughout their journey. He provided a dry passage through the Red Sea. **But Pharaoh and the Egyptians died.**
 - **A Guide - Decision? Which Way?** - Shortest, coastal? **or** longer via the desert? The Lord knew that they would be afraid of the Philistine warriors along the coast, so He directed them towards the Desert of Sinai, rough terrain, a much longer route.
 - **A Route** - God would show the way – **Pillar of Cloud by day, and Fire by night.**

God has given us all we need to know for life’s journey in His Word, The Bible.

We Are All On The Journey Of Life – but where are we headed?

- **If We Journey As Unbelievers, Without God’s Guidance, We Will Have:** -
 - **No Heavenly Destination** - This ‘Promised Land’ is **only** for true Christians.
 - **No Control** - Living by chance happenings, totally outside our control. Stumbling along.
 - **No Guide** - No help from God on major decisions – study, job, marriage, church, etc.
 - **No Route** - Living life without God is a disaster, boring, mundane, and meaningless.

How Do We Join The Heavenly Road?

- **The Place to Start** is the Cross of Calvary, where the Lord Jesus died for sinners.
 - No one can join the road to Heaven without first realising the awfulness of their sin in God’s sight, and the need to receive His forgiveness, and cleansing. **The Wicket Gate.**
 - This leads them to seek forgiveness from God through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, believing He died in their place, taking God’s wrath for their sin upon Himself.
- **Once Started** - Life must now be lived by obediently seeking God’s guidance.
 - **A daily walk** with God is essential - reading the Bible and learning Biblical Doctrine, and God’s Principles for decision-making and obedience. **I.e., Living for Him.**
 - **Daily prayer** is required – praising Him, seeking ongoing forgiveness, the glory of His Name, the salvation of the lost, help for the needy, and His will on our major decisions.
 - **Sincere Worship** - Regular attendance at as many of the church services as possible.

Proving that, ‘All things work together for good to those who love God’ Rom 8v28.

The Lord Jesus Christ said, “I am The Way, The Truth, and The Life; no man cometh unto The Father but, by Me”.

John 14v6.