

## LIFE CHANGING STORIES FROM THE BIBLE

### “GUIDED ALL THE WAY TO GLORY”

Psalm 73:24,25. “You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory.” Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you.”

These two wonderful verses are God’s plan for each one of us. He wants to guide us through life with his counsel. His counsel is his plan and purpose for our life. In other words God wants us to live a “God planned life.” Many people want to plan their own lives but God wants us to follow his plan. Just like it says in Ephesians 2:10. “For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

“Afterward,” that is, when we have finished the work God has given us to do, he will take us into glory. Glory here, is just another name for heaven. Heaven is a glorious place, a place of great splendour and wonder. There, we read in Romans 14:12 “So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.” It will be quite humbling as he shows us how much we deviated from his plan. Jesus, could say before he died, “I finished the work you gave me to do” John 17:4 and we should seek to follow his example and be guided by the counsel of the Lord that we might fulfil God’s plan for us.

So how will God guide us? The answer is found in the second verse. “Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you.” The secret is to let God become the most important person in your life whether here on earth or in heaven. At first look at this verse it seems to be saying, no one else matters only God. But the truth is if we love God first we will love our loved ones better, if we love God first we will love our neighbour better, in other words we will love others better.

However, it is true that we have no one else in heaven but God and no one else on earth but God because here on earth all relationships are taken away from us by death but our relationship with God remains whether by life or by death. And when we go to glory we stand before God alone to have our Christian life reviewed.

So how does God actually do the guiding and show us his counsel? Let me illustrate, suppose someone living a totally selfish life suddenly meets another person who they fall deeply in love with. Immediately there is a change in their behaviour. Things they used to do they no longer do, places they used to go they no longer go. Company they used to keep they no longer keep. They are totally taken up with their new love. As they get to know the one they now love they begin to discern what pleases them and what displeases them.

When they do something that makes the one they love sad they are not happy until they make it right with them. They eagerly wait for texts, emails or letters from their new love. They study them intently and discover more what pleases them. From this they want to do things to make the other happy.

In the same way, when we read and study the bible it is like receiving a text or email or letter from God. If we are surrendered to God he can speak to our hearts from his word even give us direct instructions at times as to what he wants us to do, as part of his plan. This has happened to me on a number of occasions. I know it was God speaking directly to me because all that he said, through his word, actually happened as he said it would.

If you are surrendered and walking with God you know when he is speaking to you. There are some Christians who say they have had visions like some of the people in the bible. This is like being sent a photo on your phone or email or face book or something of the kind. But every vision needs to be checked out to make sure the word of God agrees with it.

If someone comes to say they have a message from God if you are surrendered and loving God first you will know if that messenger is from God or not. There is a saying in the world, "It's not what you know but who you know that will open doors for you." This is often true, but it certainly is true in your Christian service for God. Because you are surrendered to God and his Son Jesus Christ they open doors of opportunity for you and after prayer you can believe this is God showing you his plan to enter in and do the good works he planned in advance for you to do. What better good works than to share the gospel and bring people to Christ.

The more we are surrendered to God the less we will need to ask the question, "Is this God speaking to me, guiding me, showing me the way, we will know when he is speaking to us.

FOLLOW THE PATH I'VE  
ALREADY PLANNED FOR YOU  
UNTIL I RECEIVE YOU UP  
INTO GLORY.



HEAVEN



WHEN WE  
STAND BEFORE  
THE LORD, WILL  
WE BE ASHAMED  
OF HOW LITTLE  
OF HIS PLAN WE  
HAVE FOLLOWED ?

FRANK HUTCHINSON