

Subject: *God's Guidance on the Way to Glory*

Scripture: *Psalm 73:24*

Psalm 73 is the personal testimony of a man named Asaph. He was a godly man and a worship leader, but he had a real struggle and it's a common struggle that many of us have. He was wavering in his faith, but the turning point came when he went into the sanctuary and got things into focus. He could then see God better and he could see life in relation to eternity, heaven and hell. Then life began to make sense and he got his priorities in order. At the very heart of Psalm 73 is this statement about God's guidance on the way to heaven. It is a double promise: 1) God's guidance now and 2) God's glory later.

God has promised to guide us all the way to our final destination in heaven. How does God guide us? In this sermon I want to point out three main sources of guidance.

1. God guides us by the counsel of Scripture

Psalms 119:105 *Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.*

Psalms 119:130 *The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.*

A. Read the Bible *daily*

Start your day in the Word. Don't let FaceBook be your first book to read in the morning.

B. Read the Bible *consistently* (you can't afford to miss)

C. Read the Bible *completely* (how can you believe what you don't know?)

Use the Bible reading guide to read through the Bible this year.

D. Read the Bible *prayerfully* (Psalm 119:18 – "Open thou mine eyes...")

E. Read the Bible *expectantly* (as someone looking for buried treasure)

Proverbs 2:1-9

John 5:39 *Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.*

F. Read the Bible *humbly* (submit your way of thinking to God's truth)

We are going to find some truths in Romans 8-9 that may be hard to accept *unless* you submit to God's Word.

G. Read the Bible *obediently* (put it into practice)

Psalm 19:7-11

2. God guides us by the counsel of the Holy Spirit

Romans 8:14 *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.*

A. The Holy Spirit reveals truth in Scripture

John 14:26 *But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.* This refers to the inspiration of NT Scripture and apostolic teaching.

B. The Holy Spirit reveals all the truth that God wants us to know

John 16:12-13 ¹² *I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.*
¹³ *Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come.*

C. The Holy Spirit reveals truth as we compare Scripture with Scripture

1 Corinthians 2:12-13 ¹² *Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.* ¹³ *Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.*

3. God guides us by the counsel of godly people

We need the guidance of godly teachers, preachers, evangelists, and personal witnesses. Children need parents to guide them. Students need teachers to guide them. Churches need pastors to guide them. Jesus told Peter: "If you love me, feed my sheep."

Acts 8:26-35

Whether you are a parent or a SS teacher, AWANA teacher, evangelist, or pastor, it is your duty and privilege to point people to the Bible and help them understand how to live. The Bible is a road map, and no matter where they are now, we can help them find the right way.

I'm reading the classic book by John Bunyan, *Pilgrim's Progress*, and it's the story of Christian on his way to heaven. He needs guidance on his way to glory and God guides him by the Scriptures, by the Holy Spirit, and by the godly guidance of other pilgrims who travel with him on the way to the Celestial City.

I see myself in the story. I need God's guidance on my way to heaven, and I want to help guide others as best I can. There's glory ahead for us at the end of the journey.

2 Timothy 3:15 *And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.*

The Scriptures reveal our sin

The Scriptures reveal our Savior

The Scriptures reveal God's plan of salvation (repentance and faith)