

**“Losing Our Way”**  
**1 Corinthians 11:2-3**

**Introduction:**

1. Have You Ever Been Lost?
  - I Mean - Really Lost?
    - Where You Had No Idea Where You Were!
    - And You Had No Idea How To Get Where You Were Going!
  - Remember How You Felt?
    - Especially If You Were In An Unfamiliar Place That Looked & Felt Dangerous!
    - Start To Think:
      - If Only I Remembered The Directions Better!
      - If Only I Remembered To Bring A Map!
      - If Only I Had Someone With Me To Help Me!
  - Today - Don't Have This Problem Much Any More!
    - With A Map On My Phone!
    - And I Carry My Phone Pretty Much Wherever I Go!
    - Like On Our Trip To Michigan The Last Couple Of Days!
      - Didn't Get Too Lost!
      - And Even When I Did, I Could Easily Figure Out Where I Was & How To Get To Where I Was Going!
2. We May Not Get Lost On The Road Much Any More!
  - But Have We Lost Our Way:
    - As A Christian, In Our Walk With Christ?
    - Or As A Church, In Our Service For Christ?
    - Or Even As A Society?
  - As We Head Back To 1 Corinthians 11:
    - We Continue To See Paul Helping The Corinthian Christians To Find Their Way Back!
      - From Being Lost!
      - Lost In A Society & Culture That Was Christ-Less!
      - And Even Lost In Their Personal Walk With & Service For Their Savior Jesus Christ!
  - We Have Already Seen Many Problem Areas:
    - For These Christians In This Early Church!
      - Where They Lost Their Way!
    - And Paul Is Going To Bring Out Some More Issues:
      - That Require Their Attention!
    - And As We Have Looked At Them:
      - Perhaps We Have Seen Areas In Our Own Lives Where We Have Lost Our Way!
3. How Can We Get Back On Track?
  - In The 2 Verses We Will Consider This Morning:
    - Paul Is Reminding The Corinthian Church & Us As Well, Just How To Do This!
      - And To Stop Losing Our Way!
  - 11:2-3 - “Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you. / But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God!”
    - There Are Some Things That We Need To Remember:
      - In Order To Find Our Way Back!
        - Not Just When We Get Lost On A Road Trip!
        - But When We Get Lose Our Way Spiritually In Our Walk With & Our Service For God!

\* Remember That You Have:

1. ***A Shepherd To Follow!*** (IE: Better / Easier To Follow Someone)
  - 11:2a - “Now I Praise You, Brethren, That Ye Remember Me In All Things!”
    - Paul Begins This New Section That Deals With A New Issue In Their Church – The Issue Of Authority & The Proper Response To Authority – By Offering The Church Some Praise!
      - These Were Some Things That They Had Going For Them! Some Things That Showed Paul That God Was Working In Their Hearts & Lives! Some Things That Could Remind Them That

- They Were In Fact A Church That Belonged To Jesus Christ!
- And One Of The Things Paul Praised Them For:
  - Was That They Remembered Paul In All Things!
  - That Is: They Remembered That They Had A Shepherd / A Pastor / And That They Sought To Follow Him!
- But Remember What Paul Told Them In 11:1?
  - 11:1 - "Be Ye Followers Of Me, Even As I Am Of Christ!"
  - See - Paul Knew That He Was Just An Under-Shepherd, In Service Of The "Great Shepherd Of The Sheep" – The Lord Jesus Christ!
- So - When They Remembered Him & Followed Him:
  - They Were Really To Remember Jesus & Follow Jesus!
  - And This Is The First Thing We Must Remember:
    - If You Are Losing Your Way!
    - That You Have A Shepherd To Follow!
- Because:
  - If You Forget That You Have A Shepherd To Follow – You Have Already Lost Your Way!
- Remember Your Shepherd's Concern!
  - Paul Was Concerned For This Church In Corinth!
    - See This Throughout This Letter!
    - Keeps Calling Them "Brethren" Is He Does Here In 11:2 - He Loved Them & Cared For Them & Wanted The Absolute Best For Them!
  - Paul's Concern Was Simply A Reflection Of The Concern Of Jesus Christ For His Church!
    - Jesus - Who Is The Good Shepherd - Loves His Sheep!
    - John 10:14 - "I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine!"
  - When You Start To Lose Your Way:
    - As A Christian - In Your Own Walk With & Service For The Lord:
    - Remember Your Shepherd's Concern!
      - And Return & Follow Him!
      - He Will Lead You On The Right Path!
  - "Now I Praise You, Brethren, That Ye Remember Me In All Things!"
- Remember Your Shepherd's Counsel!
  - Paul Gave Counsel To This Church In Corinth!
    - And One Of The Things He Praised Them For, Was That They Went To Him With Their Questions & With Their Concerns!
      - They Wanted To Hear From Paul!
      - His Counsel & Advice - Knowing That It Wasn't Just From Paul, But From The Lord Himself!
  - Again - Paul's Counsel Was A Reflection Of The Counsel Of Jesus Christ For His Church!
    - Jesus - Who Is The Great Shepherd - Guides His Sheep!
    - 1 Peter 2:25 - "For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls!"
  - When You Start To Lose Your Way:
    - As A Christian - In Your Own Walk With & Service For The Lord:
    - Remember Your Shepherd's Counsel!
      - Through His Word!
      - And Return & Follow Him!
      - He Will Lead You On The Right Path!
  - "Now I Praise You, Brethren, That Ye Remember Me In All Things!"
- Remember Your Shepherd's Conduct!
  - Again - Paul Encouraged The Christians In Corinth:
    - To Consider & Follow His Example, But With One Stipulation!
    - 11:1 - "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ!"
  - The Most Important Thing To Do:
    - When You Are Lost:
      - Is To Get Back On The Right Road / Path!
    - And As A Christian:
      - The Only Way You & I Can Do This, Is To Follow Jesus Down His Path!
  - So Many Of The Problems & Questions & Issues:

- That The Corinthian Church Faced!
- And That We Face In Our Lives Today!
- Could Be Solved & Answered:
  - If We Just Considered / Remembered & Followed The Conduct Of Our Savior Jesus Christ!
  - 1 Peter 2:21 - "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps!"
- If You Forget That You Have A Shepherd To Follow:
  - You Have Already Lost Your Way!
  - So - Remember Your Shepherd!
    - Sometimes God Uses Someone - Another Shepherd - To Help Point You To Himself! A Preacher / A Pastor / A Christian Friend! See Their Concern / Counsel / Conduct As A Reflection Of & A Reminder Of Your Own Shepherd, The Lord Jesus Christ!
  - And Follow Him!
    - He Will Get You Back On Track!

\* Remember That You Have:

2. ***A Standard To Follow!*** (IE: Nothing Like An *Accurate* Map / GPS)

- Sabine Moreau, a 67-year-old Belgian woman, meant to pick up a friend on Jan. 5 in Brussels, less than 90 miles from her house. However, because of a GPS error, she ended up more than 900 miles away -- in Croatia. / The unexpected journey took the woman across five international borders. By the time she hit Zagreb, the capital of Croatia, two days after leaving her house, Moreau finally realized she'd taken a wrong turn somewhere. She'd stopped several times to top off her gas tank and taken cat-naps in her car on the side of the road. / "I was distracted, so I kept going," Moreau admitted to El Mundo's Brussels correspondent. "I saw all kinds of signs, first in French, then in German and finally in Croatian, but I continued driving because I was distracted." - Lessons Here!
- 11:2b - "Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you!"
  - There Is Another Thing That Paul Praises These Christians In Corinth For!
    - Not Only Did They Remember Him!
      - And Through Him, Their Savior & Shepherd, The Lord Jesus Christ!
    - But Also That They Kept Some Things In Their Lives As Well!
      - That They Kept The Ordinances As Paul Had Delivered Them!
  - And This Is The Second Thing We Must Remember:
    - If You Are Losing Your Way!
    - That You Have A Standard To Follow!
  - Because:
    - If You Forget That You Have A Standard To Follow – You Have Already Lost Your Way!
- The Doctrines To Follow!
  - Paul Was Encouraged That They Were:
    - "Keeping The Ordinances!"
  - What Is He Talking About Here?
    - "Ordinances" - Not Just Talking About The Regular Ordinances Of The Church:
      - Like Baptism & The Lord's Supper!
      - Though These Are Included In This Term!
        - And Were Some Things That They Were Trying To Do & Keep In The Right Way!
    - But "Ordinances" Here Are:
      - The Teachings & Doctrines That Were Fundamental To Their Faith & To The Founding Of Their Church!
  - The Corinthian Church:
    - Received The Teachings Of Paul!
      - And Listened To The Teachings Of Paul!
    - There Was A Doctrinal Soundness In This Church!
      - The Major Problem Was Putting The Principles Into Practice In Their Every Day Life!
  - This May Be One Of Our Issues As Well!
    - We Have Received & Listened To The Doctrines & Teachings Of God's Word!
      - We May Have A Very Sound Statement Of Faith & A Very Sound Understanding Of

God's Word!

- But The Major Problem Is Putting These Principles Into Practice In Our Every Day Lives!
- But When You Start To Lose Your Way:
  - Remember That You Have A Standard To Follow!
    - The Truth Of God's Word!
    - Make Sure That You Are Not Just A Hearer, But A Doer Of The Word!
- The Duty To Follow!
  - The Corinthian Christians:
    - "Kept" These Doctrines / Teachings / Ordinances!
    - That Is - They Held Them As Their Own!
    - They Realized That It Was Their Duty:
      - To Continue To Learn About Them & Grow!
  - The Doctrines / Teachings Of God's Word:
    - We Have A Duty To Keep & To Follow As Well!
    - This Is Our Map To Follow:
      - In The Confusion Of This World!
      - It Is What God Himself Has Given To Us!
  - And When You Start To Lose Your Way:
    - Remember That You Have A Standard To Follow!
    - The Truth Of God's Word!
- The Diligence To Follow!
  - The Corinthians Understood:
    - That It Wasn't Just Any Doctrine / Teaching That Would Guide & Lead Them In This Life!
    - It Was The Truth, Paul Says: "As I Delivered Them To You!"
      - Their Goal Was Faithfulness To The Truth! Not Changing It / Not Watering It Down!
  - We Need To Have The Same Diligence:
    - When It Comes To The Word Of God!
    - When Faced With Something:
      - That Challenges Us!
      - What / Who Is To Change?
    - James 1:23-25 - "For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: / For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. / But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed!"
- If You Forget That You Have A Standard To Follow:
  - You Have Already Lost Your Way!
  - So - Remember Your Standard!
    - The Word Of God Is Your Standard!
  - Follow & Be Faithful To The Truth!
    - The Truth Is The Track We Are To Remain On!

\* Remember That You Have A:

3. ***A Sphere To Fulfill!*** (IE: Driver / Navigator / Pilot / Etc - Canoe)

- 11:3 - "But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God!"
  - After Praising Them For Some Of The Things That Were Going Well In The Church – Paul Now Deals With Another Issue That The Church Was Facing!
    - And, We Will Find, It Is An Issue That We All Face In Our Lives & In Our Church As Well!
  - The Issue Is One Of Authority!
    - And How We Respond To Authority!
    - A Pretty Big Issue - Not Just In Our Christian Lives / But In The Church / In Families / In Society At Large!
  - And This Was An Issue Looming In The City Of Corinth As Well!
    - It Seems Like This Was Something New To The Church / Or At Least Something Paul Had Not Touched On Before! How To Respond To Authority As Christians & As A Church!
  - And In This Verse:
    - He Explains That: Everyone Has A God-Given Role & Sphere To Fulfill!

- And If We Forget This Truth – This Universal Truth:
  - We Have Already Lost Our Way!
  - And This Is True In Our Own Society As Well!
    - With The Not-So-Recent Debate, But Now Policy, Of Having Women In Combat Roles In Our Military!
  - How Will We Respond To The God-Given:
    - Authorities In Our Lives?
    - And Roles Of Our Own Lives?
- ***How We Respond To Authority In Our Lives:***
  - ***Reflects On Our Relationship To Our Shepherd & To Our Standard!***
  - Find 3 Authorities In This Verse:
- The Authority Over Men!
  - “The Head Of Every Man Is Christ!”
  - The Relationship Of This Authority:
    - Every Man & Christ!
    - This Does Not Just Apply To The Church!
      - But To Every Man In This World!
    - Philippians 2:10 - “That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth!”
  - There Is A Role & A Responsibility In This Relationship!
    - The Role / Responsibility Of Christ:
      - Is To Lead! He Is The Head!
      - He Is The Authority To Every Man!
    - The Role / Responsibility Of Man:
      - Is To Submit & To Follow Christ!
  - But When Man Forgets About This Relationship:
    - And Disregards This Authority!
    - Then We Have Lost Our Way!
    - And We Have!
  - ***How We Respond To Authority In Our Lives:***
    - ***Reflects On Our Relationship To Our Shepherd & Our Standard!***
- The Authority Over Women!
  - “And The Head Of The Woman Is The Man!”
  - The Relationship Of This Authority:
    - Women & Men!
    - In The Marriage Relationship!
    - In The Church!
  - There Is A Role & A Responsibility In This Relationship!
    - The Role / Responsibility Of The Man:
      - Is To Lead! And To Love! He Is The Head!
      - The Man Is The Authority To The Woman In Their Biblical Relationships!
    - The Role / Responsibility Of The Woman:
      - Is To Submit & To Follow Their Man!
  - But When We Forget About This Relationship:
    - And Disregard This Authority!
    - The We Have Lost Our Way!
    - And We Have!
  - ***How We Respond To Authority In Our Lives:***
    - ***Reflects On Our Relationship To Our Shepherd & Our Standard!***
- The Authority Over Christ!
  - “And The Head Of Christ Is God!”
  - The Relationship Of This Authority:
    - Jesus Christ & God The Father!
    - In Their Divine Relationship!
  - There Is A Role & A Responsibility In This Relationship!
    - The Role / Responsibility Of God The Father:
      - Is To Lead! And To Love! He Is The Head!
    - The Role / Responsibility Of God The Son:

- Is To Submit & To Follow The Will Of The Father!
- This Is A Difficult Truth!
  - But It Shows Us How Our Relationship With & Response To Authority Is To Work!
  - Authority Does Not Mean:
    - One Is Superior To / Inferior To The Other!
    - God The Father / God The Son Are Equal In All Divine Attributes & Essence! The Difference Is One Of Role & Function!
  - Authority Does Mean:
    - A Willing, Voluntary Submission To The Will Of Another!
    - Just Because That Is The Way God Wants It To Be!
- What We Learn In This Verse:
  - Is That There Is A Divine Order & Structure For Every Relationship!
    - In The Relationships Between:
      - Man & Jesus Christ!
      - Women & Men!
      - Even Christ & God The Father!
  - And If We Forget That We Have A Sphere To Fulfill:
    - We Have Already Lost Our Way!
  - So - Remember Your Sphere!
    - Your God-Designed / God-Given Role In Your Relationships!
    - And Your Responsibilities Within Those Roles!
  - The Issue Is One Of Authority!
    - ***And How We Respond To Authority In Our Lives:***
      - ***Reflects On Our Relationship To Our Shepherd & Our Standard!***

**Conclusion:**

1. Have You Lost Your Way?
  - When You Forget Any Of These Truths:
    - Than You Are Already Way Off Track!
    - And This Can Even Happen To Christians & To Churches!
2. We Will Explore More About The Issue Of Authority:
  - Within The Church!
    - And Especially The Role Of Women & Men!
  - But For Today:
    - Remember: That You & I Have:
      - A Shepherd To Follow!
      - A Standard To Follow!
      - And A Sphere / Role To Fulfill!
3. When We Remember These Things:
  - We Will Not Lose Our Way!

***Grace Baptist Church***  
***Stephen Elmer, Pastor***  
***4245 North 200 West***  
***Greenfield, Indiana 46140***  
***317-326-2362***  
***www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace***  
***www.growatgrace.org***  
***pastor-elmer@hotmail.com***