



Navigating Life

PSALM 27

Of David. 1 The LORD is my light and my salvation— whom should I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life— whom should I dread? 2 When evildoers came against me to devour my flesh, my foes and my enemies stumbled and fell. 3 Though an army deploys against me, my heart will not be afraid; though a war breaks out against me, I will still be confident. 4 I have asked one thing from the LORD; it is what I desire: to dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, gazing on the beauty of the LORD and seeking him in his temple. 5 For he will conceal me in his shelter in the day of adversity; he will hide me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock. 6 Then my head will be high above my enemies around me; I will offer sacrifices in his tent with shouts of joy. I will sing and make music to the LORD. 7 LORD, hear my voice when I call; be gracious to me and answer me. 8 My heart says this about you: "Seek his face." LORD, I will seek your face. 9 Do not hide your face from me; do not turn your servant away in anger. You have been my helper; do not leave me or abandon me, God of my salvation. 10 Even if my father and mother abandon me, the LORD cares for me.

11 Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on the right path, because of my enemies. 12 Do not give me over to the will of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against me, breathing violence. 13 I am certain that I will see the LORD's goodness in the land of the living. 14 Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart be courageous. Wait for the LORD.

① God is the perfect navigator for life.

11 Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on the right path, because of my enemies.

If you follow your heart, it will lead you away from God.

(Psalm 81:11-13) "But my people would not listen to my voice; and Israel would have none of me. So I gave them up to their own stubborn heart, to walk in their own counsels. Oh that my people had listened to Me, and that Israel would walk in my ways."

(Jere. 3:21) "...they have perverted their way, and they have forgotten the Lord their God"

(Isa 53:6) "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way..."

(Romans 3:12) "They are all gone out of the way, they are together become worthless; there is no one who does good, no, not one."

(Proverbs 21:2) Every way of a man is right in his own eyes.

God is perfectly capable and perfectly suited to be your navigator!

- HE MADE YOU FOR A PURPOSE.

Who better to navigate you through life than the One who made you, who knows the purpose for which you've been created?!

(Psalm 139:13-17) 13 For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb... I am fearfully and wonderfully made.... My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven... Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me.... How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

- HE LOVES YOU ON PURPOSE.

You can completely trust God as your navigator.

Even when we go astray and get on the wrong path, God never stops loving us!

(Jer. 31:3) "I have loved you with an everlasting love, therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you."

- HE KNOWS EVERYTHING ON PURPOSE.

He knows you better than you know yourself.

(Romans 11:33) "Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and understanding of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and his ways past finding out."

(Psalm 147:5) "Great is our Lord...his understanding is beyond measure."

(Isaiah 40:13-14) 13 Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, or being his counsellor has taught him? 14 From whom did He take counsel, and who instructed Him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and showed to Him the way of understanding?

② God's way is always the right way to go in life.

David isn't asking for an easy path. He didn't expect a pain-free, trouble-free path. He's simply asking that God would show him what steps to take—the right steps to take.

God's way often takes us through deep waters, yet His way is always the right way.

- GOD'S WAY IS PERFECT.

(Psalm 18:30-32) 30 As for God, his way is perfect... he is a buckler to all those that trust in him. 31 For who is God save the LORD? or who is a rock save our God? 32 It is God that girds me with strength, and makes my way perfect."

- GOD'S WAY IS HIGHER

(Isaiah 55:8-9) 8 My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

God will never lead you wrong!

③ God's way is learned as you allow Him to lead your life.

God teaches His people His way primarily by His _____ and His _____.

"Your word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105)

God will teach you His way, but you must:

- Acknowledge your _____.

David is saying, "Lord, I don't know the right way to go. All I can see is what is in front of my face. I can't see what's around the corner. I don't know what the enemy is up to or where they are. I can't navigate this on my own."

Pride will take you the wrong direction in life. Proverbs 16:18, "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

The sooner we realize our limitations in navigating life, the sooner we can get on with trusting God.

- Deepen your _____.

7:1, "O Lord my God, in you do I put my trust..."

16:1, "Preserve me God...in you do I put my trust..."

20:7, "Some trust in chariots, some in horses, but we will remember the name of the Lord..."

25:2, "O my God, I trust in you: let me not be ashamed, let not my enemies triumph over me."

31:19 Oh how great is your goodness...which You have wrought for them who trust in You..."

56:11, "In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid of what man can do to me."

31:1,3 "In You, O Lord, do I put my trust...You are my rock and my fortress...for your name's sake lead me, and guide me..."

If you want God to lead you and guide you into His way... you are going to have to trust Him. If you trust Him, He will direct your steps.

(Psalm 32:7-8) 7 You [Lord] are my hiding place; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with songs of deliverance... 8 [therefore, God says] I will instruct you and teach you the way which you should go: I will guide you with my eye.

- Maintain your _____.

25:4, "teach me your paths"

25:5, "lead me in your truth, and teach me: for you are the God of my salvation"

86:11, "Teach me your way, O Lord; I will walk in your truth"

119:12, "Teach me your statutes"

119:33, "Teach me, O Lord, they way of your statutes..."

143:10, "Teach me to do your will, for you are my God, your spirit is good, lead me into the land of uprightness."

In order for God to teach you His way, you must be teachable.

- Yield your _____.

David does NOT pray for God to grant him his own way. How often do we pray instead, "Lord, give me my way"

David said, 119:33, "Teach me, O Lord, they way of your statutes, and I will keep it to the end."

Psalm 37:34 Wait on the LORD, and keep his way..."

Psalm 32:8-9 8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go ... 9 Be not like a horse or a mule, which have no understanding, whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you.

If you ask God to teach you His way, be yielded to whatever He has for you.

NEXT STEPS

#1 I will stop navigating life according to my own heart, whims, and desires—and ask God to help me turn the wheel of my life over to Him once and for all.

#2 I will trust that God's ways are right and best, and will surrender myself to walking in His ways as He teaches me.

#3 I will begin asking God each day to teach me His ways and to lead me on the right path.