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New Series: The Principle of the Path

Today's Message: Why Bad Things Happen to Smart People

Truth: Many want a solution to their problems but don't want to see how they have _____ to follow in the wrong directions.

The Principle of the Path: "Direction—not _____ - determines our destination." ~Andy Stanley

Simply Put: "We win or lose by the _____ we choose."

Why Bad Things Happen To Smart People

Jeremiah 6:16 "This is what the Lord says: Stand at the crossroads and look, ... ask where the good way is, and walk in it... But you said, 'We will not'..."

Proverbs 21:2 "Every way of man is right in his own eyes..."

Proverbs 14:12 "There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death."

Reality: You don't just have problems to fix—you have _____ you need to change.

Lostness: 1. Don't do it on purpose.

2. Never know exactly where it happens.

3. The road I'm on always determines where I end up.

Solomon's Story — Our Tendency To _____ Direction From Destination.

Proverbs 7:6, 7 "At the window of my house I looked out... I saw among the simple, I noticed among the young men, a youth who lacked judgement."

Proverbs 7:8, 9 "He was going down the street near her corner, walking alone in the direction of her house... as the dark of night set in."

Proverbs 7:10-12 "Then out came a woman to meet him, dressed like a prostitute and with crafty intent (she is loud and defiant... at every corner she lurks)."

Proverbs 7:13-15 "She took hold of him and kissed him and with a brazen face she said, "I have fellowship offerings at home; today I fulfilled my vows. So I came out to meet you; I looked for you and have found you!"

Proverbs 7:21, 22 "With persuasive words she let him astray; she seduced him with her smooth talk. All at once he followed her like an ox going to the slaughter."

Proverbs 7:22, 23 "... like a deer stepping into a noose till an arrow pierces his liver, like a bird darting into a snare, little knowing it will cost him his life."

Proverbs 7:24, 25 "... listen to me, pay attention... Do not let your heart turn to her ways or stray to her paths."