

The Way Of The Lord Is Caught, Not Taught

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus our Lord,

Many years ago we wrote about a specific primary cause of marital estrangement and divorce among Christians: **a husband's failure to seek the specific will of our Father for his family**. And, the respect that's due a husband who *does* humbly seek to hear the Holy Spirit and obey what He says has disappeared in many marriages throughout Christianity. A major contributing factor has been that for decades male clergy have been a leading occupation for divorce. So it's no wonder that men in the pews haven't been trained or disciplined to make this God-required responsibility of *seeking to hear the Holy Spirit* a way of life on behalf of their family.

Mike: Soon after Sue and I first followed Jesus as our Lord, I learned a specific application of this passage for our own marriage: *"Husbands, love your wives just as Christ loved the collective called-out ones and gave Himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word"* (Ephesians 5:25,26). We've noted often in the past that the word for "word" in this passage is *rhema*, a *Spirit-revealed application* of the written Word. I was made aware that it was my responsibility to my Father and to Sue and our son that I would daily seek His will for our household.

For all these many years, that's a key reason I've gotten up before everyone else does – to seek my Father's specific will for us. Sometimes the Holy Spirit guides me about certain things that day (not everything), and other times He warns me about demonic attacks that will be forthcoming against me or my family.

Men, the Holy Spirit isn't going to tell you each day which cereal to eat or how to comb your hair. But if you will earnestly seek Him, you'll soon come to recognize that

there is a *way of life* in His guidance which pleases our Father and deepens our growth in Christ's character. We call it "***the way of the Lord.***" (Ephesians chapter 4, for example, overflows with clearcut examples of *walking the way* Jesus walked.) The way of our Lord Jesus was to do His Father's will. He perfectly role modeled the love-grounded, obedient trust which our Abba requires of His own children and graces us to fulfill – the trust-based obedience that's on par with the Patriarch Abraham.

The *way of the Lord* flows from His Spirit within you. Again, the way of the Lord flows from *His Spirit within you.* The Spirit of our Lord breathes into your spirit the specific guidance and direction to fulfill a particular aspect of our Father's will for you as you walk in *the way*. Consider again why Abraham is declared a father to all who put their trust in our Lord Jesus (see Romans 4:16; Galatians 3:7):

"For I have chosen [Abraham], so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just, so that the LORD will bring about for Abraham what He has promised him"
(Genesis 18:19).

Keep in mind that because of Abraham's *willingness to obey* God no matter what the cost, God spoke to him. No less should be expected of any man who claims to belong to our Lord Jesus. The way of our Lord is a way of life that others can see in your loving and grateful service to Jesus. That kind of obedience results in the will of our heavenly Father being accomplished in and through such a man.

For over 25 years we have been producing materials to help you develop a *way of life* that is not only pleasing to our heavenly Father but also displays the aroma of Jesus to all who encounter you. That aroma is evident in your

attitude, your words, and your actions. To help you make the way of our Lord *your* way of life, we've listed below several materials you may find helpful. The way of our Lord and exuding His aroma needs to be a key facet of our lives in Him. Look into any of these which you may not be familiar with, and discuss them with your family or those close to you in Jesus:

- Discussing How To Restore The Early Church**

<<https://restorationministries.org/discussing-how-to.html>>;

- Jesus In Your Home Bytesize**

<<https://restorationministries.org/jesus-in-your-home.html>>.

- Going To The High Places**

<<https://restorationministries.org/going-to.html>>

- The Way Of The Lord**

<<https://restorationministries.org/way-of-the-lord.html>>

- Kingdom Living Today**

<<https://restorationministries.org/kingdom-living-today.html>>

It's imperative that we for whom Jesus is Lord of our lives abundantly reveal Him to this desperately needy world through our way of life. Too many people in Christianity live like Jekyll and Hyde – they enact one way with their “Christian” friends and a very different way with their non-Christian friends. One reason for this disparate way of living is their disparate pattern of religious instruction. They pick and choose what they want to believe from a variety of dissimilar sources that cater to their preferences — more like browsing a buffet line or like chickens pecking at tidbits around the barnyard.

You can't develop the way of our Lord in your life this haphazard way! His way takes the discipline of undistracted prayer and daily consistency in His Word with the goal of putting it into practice through His Spirit. This discipline isn't to earn merit points from our Father, but rather in you having the resolute determination to become

increasingly like our Lord Jesus as your intimacy with Him grows. Now *that* pleases our Father!

Let's each make every effort to be the best example of the character of Jesus to the world through His Spirit and by the grace He gives His own. Let's *be* the way of our Lord that others can see and practice themselves.

Mike & Sue

P.S. Every so often we encourage you to write letters to our imprisoned brothers and sisters around the world. The Voice of the Martyrs has made this easy to do on their website Prisoner Alert <<https://www.prisoneralert.com/>>. We've also made a brief video of how we personally create the letters we send <<https://restorationministries.org/about-us.html>>.

Help a family member who's a prisoner for his or her faith in Jesus to be blessed by this expression of your love. As you do this, you'll find yourself blessed by appreciating their depth of conviction and the suffering they're experiencing for loving and serving our Lord. And, please pass this information along to others whom our Father could use to bless His suffering children.