

Understanding The Lord's Guidance

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Isaiah 58:11 NIV The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail.

I. The Safeguards of Guidance

- A. His Word
- B. His Spirit
- C. His Providence (circumstances)

II. Two Primary Types of Guidance

- A. Specific guidance
- B. General, providential guidance
- C. Both examples are seen in Luke 2:22-40 (Simeon and Anna).

III. The Treasures of Guidance

- A. The Treasure of Intimacy
- B. The Treasure of Information

IV. Christian Life Lesson

- A. Guidance opens the door to understanding God.
 - 1. Understanding the ways of God
 - a. Satan's ploy (Genesis 3)
 - 1) God's love is doubted.
 - 2) God's love is disregarded.
 - 3) God's love is distorted.
 - b. There is no revelation as opposed by Hell as an understanding of God's Heart.

2. Understanding the heart of God

a. You can go deeper.

b. **Psalm 103:7 NIV** He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel.

Psalm 103:7 NLT He revealed his character to Moses and his deeds to the people of Israel.

c. We live in “the age of rage.” There is almost no effort given to understanding. There is most often a demand that you see things “my way,” that you do things “my way,” that everything is in place for “my way” to be served.

B. Guidance opens the door to re-establishing the Lordship of Christ.

1. What does the struggle really look like?

2. The issue is often not what we think.

3. **Matthew 15:21-28 NIV** Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon.²² A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.”²³ Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.”²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.”²⁵ The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said.²⁶ He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.”²⁷ “Yes it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.”²⁸ Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment.

4. What happened?

a. She pressed through her misunderstanding of Jesus.

b. She chose to lay down her offense caused by His initial answer.

c. She learned to stay until He finished speaking.

C. Guidance opens the door to a strong frame, a satisfied soul and a fruitful life.