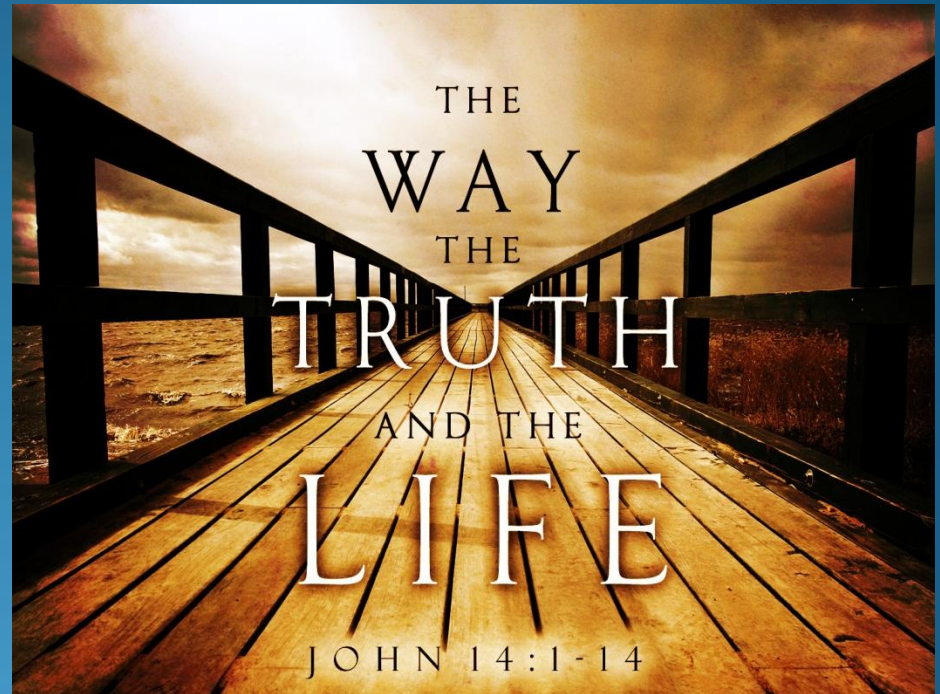


“I am the
way, the
truth,
and the
life”

John 14:6



Those
who are
walking
on the
WAY...



1. They accept to die with Him...(1)

- The way is a difficult one with a narrow gate that has a sign that says: “Those who want to follow Me should carry their cross”
 - “For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God”

Colossians 3:3

- “it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me” Galatians 2:20



1. They accept to die with Him...(2)

- This is the vow we take in our baptism: to be buried with Him and live dead to the world afterwards.
- It is an everyday struggle to walk undefiled on the way:
“Blessed are the undefiled in the way” [Psalm 119:1](#)

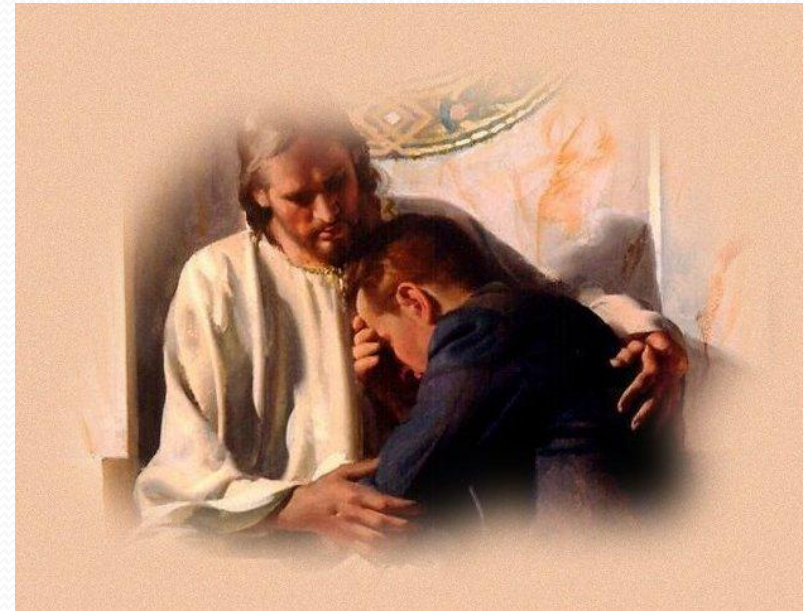


2. They are sinners, but not wicked...(1)

- Sinners can be taken in their weakness; the wicked sin deliberately. “For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins”

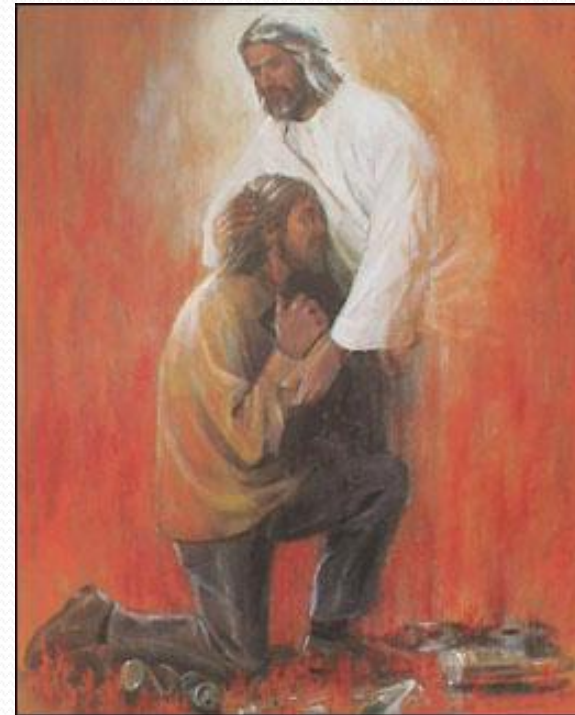
Hebrews 10:26

- Sinners may offer repentance; the wicked drink iniquities like water



2. They are sinners, but not wicked...(2)

- Sinners feel the shame of sin; the wicked rejoice with those who practice lawlessness.
- Sinners may fall and rise again; the wicked abide in their iniquities
- That is why God still help those sinners: “Good and upright is the Lord; Therefore He teaches sinners in the way” **Psalm 25:8**



3. They walk the way to the end...(1)

- “Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes, and I shall keep it to the end” Psalm 119:33
- Three requirements to finish the race:
 1. Trusting the Leader
 2. Focus
 3. Discipline



3. They walk the way to the end...(2)

1. Trusting the Leader:

- Do I believe that God's way truly works? (the story of the three candidates)
- lacking this trust was the main reason for the failure of the Israelites to enter the Promised Land: "So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief"

Hebrews 3:19



3. They walk the way to the end...(3)

1. Trusting the Leader:

- It is this trust that comforts our hearts along the way: “Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me” **John 14:1**
- It is this trust that inspires me to look up and seek His guidance: “Cause me to know the way in which I should walk, For I lift up my soul to You” **Psalms 143:8**



3. They walk the way to the end...(4)

2. Focus:

- Lack of focus caused a wise king like Solomon to go astray for a period of his life: “I said in my heart, ‘Come now, I will test you with mirth; therefore enjoy pleasure’” **Ecclesiastes 2:1**
- His self-serving goals were all wrong and he despaired because he did not know what he wanted



3. They walk the way to the end...(5)

3. Self-Discipline:

- “A man without decision of character can never be said to belong to himself. He belongs to whatever can make captive of him”

--*John Foster*

- St. Peter gives us the way to self-discipline in three steps:

- * Gird your minds
- * Guard your hearts
- * Guide your lifestyle



3. They walk the way to the end...(6)

3. Self-Discipline:

- “Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, ... as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct”

1 Peter 1:13-15



3. They walk the way to the end...(6)

3. Self-Discipline:

- Samson lost his leadership of Israel when he lost his leadership of himself.
- This virtue can be acquired if we are only serious about the way.

