

Back on Track
Part 1 – “End of the Road”
April 11, 2021

You’ll end up somewhere. Will it be on purpose or by accident?

Proverbs 7:6-11

At the window of my house I looked out through the lattice. I saw among the simple, I noticed among the young men, a youth who lacked judgment. He was going down the street near her corner, walking along in the direction of her house at twilight, as the day was fading, as the dark of night set in. Then out came a woman to meet him, dressed like a prostitute and with crafty intent. (She is loud and defiant, her feet never stay at home; now in the street, now in the squares, at every corner she lurks.)

Proverbs 7:13-26

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! I have covered my bed with colored linens from Egypt. I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes and cinnamon. Come, let's drink deep of love till morning; let's enjoy ourselves with love! My husband is not at home; he has gone on a long journey. He took his purse filled with money and will not be home till full moon." With persuasive words she led him astray; she seduced him with her smooth talk. All at once he followed her like an ox going to the slaughter, 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. Now then, my sons, listen to me; pay attention to what I say. Do not let your heart turn to her ways or stray into her paths. Many are the victims she has brought down; her slain are a mighty throng. Her house is a highway to the grave, leading down to the chambers of death.

Your direction determines your destination.

Proverbs 1:20-33

Out in the open wisdom calls aloud, she raises her voice in the public square... “How long will you who are simple love your simple ways? How long will mockers delight in mockery and fools hate knowledge? Repent at my rebuke! Then I will pour out my thoughts to you, I will make known to you my teachings. But since you refuse to listen when I call and no one pays attention when I stretch out my hand, since you disregard all my advice and do not accept my rebuke, I in

turn will laugh when disaster strikes you; I will mock when calamity overtakes you... Then they will call to me but I will not answer; they will look for me but will not find me, since they hated knowledge and did not choose to fear the Lord. Since they would not accept my advice and spurned my rebuke, they will eat the fruit of their ways and be filled with the fruit of their schemes. For the waywardness of the simple will kill them, and the complacency of fools will destroy them; but whoever listens to me will live in safety and be at ease, without fear of harm."

Proverbs 27:12

The prudent see danger and take refuge, but the simple keep going and pay the penalty.

Group Questions

1. Have you found yourself in a reactionary mindset over the last 13 months? What impact does a reactionary mindset have on your life?
2. What areas of life do you feel are "drifting" right now?
3. Talk about a time when you accidentally ended up in a destination in life you were not intending to reach. How did you get there? Were there warning signs along the way?
4. "Your direction determines your destination." Why do people tend to think that they are the exception to this principle? Is there a reason why we tend to view our decisions and sins as isolated events rather than a road to a predictable destination?
5. Read Proverbs 27:12. What one factor separates the wise from the fools? When you apply this to the areas you indicated are areas of drift, what would a wise person do?
6. Read Luke 15:20. When you decide to change course and pursue a Godlier destination in any area of life, who will be the first one to cheer you on? Why?