

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into A LIVING HOPE through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. -1 Peter 1:3 NIV

THE BIG IDEA: Jesus' resurrection renews life and gives our community a living hope.

The Lord says, "I WILL GUIDE YOU along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you." - Psalm 32:8 NLT

FIVE WAYS JESUS GUIDES US (5 CS's):

1. COMMANDING SCRIPTURE (the Bible).

On a scale of 1-10, how often do you read the Bible?

• "The SCRIPTURES declare..." - Jesus, Mark 11:17a NLT

"Nothing can take the place of the daily time of intimate companionship with the Lord. Make time for it somehow and secure that it is real." - William Temple

2. <u>COMPELLING SPIRIT</u> (the Holy Spirit).

• "The SPIRIT gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are SPIRIT and they are life." - Jesus, John 6:63 NIV

• ...The SPIRIT led him [Jesus]... - Luke 4:1b CEV

"Will YOU day by day submit your thoughts and desires, your hopes and plans for yourself and for the world, to the directing influence of HIS HOLY SPIRIT?" - William Temple

- 3. <u>COUNSEL</u>OF THE <u>SAINTS</u> (the Church).
- Let us not neglect meeting TOGETHER... Hebrews10:25a BSB
- Plans succeed through good COUNSEL. Proverbs 20:18a NLT
- The WISE listen to ADVICE. Proverbs 12:15 NIV

Wise Advice:

- 1) Is it in line with <u>SCRIPTURE</u>? (1 John 4:1)
- 2) Is it LOVING ? (1 John 4:16)
- 3) Is it <u>ENCOURAGING</u> (Hebrews 10:25;1 Corinthians 14:3)
- 4) Is it PEACEFUL ? (Colossians 3:15)
- 4. <u>COMMON SENSE</u> (Reason).

"God's promises of guidance were not given to save us the problem of thinking." - John Stott

• They are a nation without SENSE, there is no discernment in them. - The Lord - Deuteronomy 32:28 NIV

Do the next sensible thing Jesus would do.

5. <u>CIRCUMSTANTIAL SIGNS</u> (Providence).

Trust His guiding.

• He [God] will GUIDE us forever. - Psalm 48:14b ESV

"The Christian life is simply a process of having your natural self changed into a Christ self, and this process goes on very far inside." - C.S. Lewis