



### I. INTRO

- A. The parable of the path
- Where will you be in five years?

**Proverbs 4:25-26 (NIV) Let your eyes look straight ahead; fix your gaze directly before you. Give careful thought to the paths for your feet and be steadfast in all your ways.**

- Your direction more than anything will determine your destination.

- B. Staying on the right track is important

**Proverbs 14:12 (TLB) Before every man there lies a wide and pleasant road that seems right but ends in death.**

**Proverbs 14:12 (CEV) You may think you are on the right road and still end up dead.**

- There is a way that SEEMS right – and there is a way that IS right

### II. THE DRIFT, CURRENT AND THE FLOW

- A. Why is it so hard to stay on the right path?

- B. There is a current in life and it's easy to drift
- Rarely do we drift in a good direction

**Ephesians 2:1-2 (AMP) And you [He made alive when you] were [spiritually] dead and separated from Him because of your transgressions and sins, in which you once walked. You were following the ways of this world [influenced by this present age], in accordance with the prince of the power of the air (Satan), the spirit who is now at work in the disobedient [the unbelieving, who fight against the purposes of God].**

- C. This is the Good News

**Ephesians 2:4-10 (NIV) But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.**



### III. IDENTIFICATION WITH A NEW WAY

#### A. Go and tell the Good News

**Mark 16:15-16 (NLT)** And then he told them, “Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone. Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned.

#### B. Baptism is a means of identification

**Acts 19:3-4 (NLT)** “Then what baptism did you experience?” he asked. And they replied, “The baptism of John.” Paul said, “John’s baptism called for repentance from sin. But John himself told the people to believe in the one who would come later, meaning Jesus.”

**Acts 19:5 (NLT)** As soon as they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

- Baptism isn't a condition of salvation it's the evidence of salvation
- Baptism is a personal declaration of a new associating
- Baptism is a public declaration of a new association