



Week #1: A Song of Two Ways

Blessed is the one who does not
walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take
or sit in the company of mockers,
but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,
and who meditates on his law day and night.
That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither—
whatever they do prospers.
Not so the wicked!
They are like chaff
that the wind blows away.
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.
For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.
Psalm 1:1-6 (NIV)

Psalm 1 invites me to:

1. Look _____ at who and what is influencing me (v. 1-2).

Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."
1 Corinthians 15:33 (NIV)

While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick."
Matthew 9:10-12 (NIV)

2. Look _____ at what I am becoming (v. 3-4).

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.
Colossians 2:6-7 (NIV)

3. Look _____ at where I want to be (v. 5-6).

When the Son of Man comes in all His majesty accompanied by throngs of heavenly messengers, His throne will be wondrous. All the nations will assemble before Him, and He will judge them, distinguishing them from one another as a shepherd isolates the sheep from the goats.
Matthew 25:31-32 (VOICE)

So these, *the goats*, will go off to everlasting punishment. But the beloved, *the sheep* (the righteous), will go into everlasting life.
Matthew 25:46 (VOICE)

Discussion Questions

1. Share a story about who has been positively influential in your life. How has your life been shaped by this individual? Whom can you positively influence in this season and how?
2. In what ways are you being built up and rooted in Jesus this season? What spiritual practices have been helpful to you and you are "delighting" in?
3. From where have you drawn strength in the past two years? What fruit have you seen in consistently living your life rooted in Christ?

Recommended Resources

Open and Unafraid: The Psalms as a Guide to Life, by W. David O. Taylor
Psalms: The Prayer Book of the Bible, by Dietrich Bonhoeffer
The Principle of the Path, by Andy Stanley
The Best Question Ever, by Andy Stanley

NIV (New International Version)

VOICE (The Voice)

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Psalm 1 invites me to:

1. Look **AROUND** at who and what is influencing me (v. 1-2).

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1 Corinthians 15:33 (NIV)

While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew’s house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” On hearing this, Jesus said, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.”
Matthew 9:10-12 (NIV)

2. Look **INSIDE** at what I am becoming (v. 3-4).

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.
Colossians 2:6-7 (NIV)

3. Look **AHEAD** at where I want to be (v. 5-6).

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