

I. Discerning the Ways: How do we know the difference?

1. The path of life is a life that never needs to _____. (4:18-19)

2. The path of death is a life that:
 - a. refuses to _____ (14:2),
 - b. is careless about the _____ (14:14),
 - c. does what seems right in the _____ (14:12),
 - d. refuses to _____ (12:15), *and*
 - e. does not consider his _____ (14:15-16).

II. Ponder Your Ways: Why do we choose the wrong path?

3. Sin's grand lie: there is a _____ to satisfaction. (9:13-18)

4. Sin's false assumption: there is no destiny beyond _____. (14:32, 21:16)

5. Wisdom's great plea: _____ your way! (4:26)

III. Desiring the Better Way: Why is wisdom worth the cost?

6. The promise of wisdom: life without any whiff of _____. (12:28)

7. The way of life is not prescription to fill, but a _____ to follow. (Jn. 14:1-7)

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Matthew 7:13-14

Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

4:18-19 The path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day.
The way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know over what they stumble.

14:2 Whoever walks in uprightness fears the LORD, but he who is devious in his ways despises him.

14:14 The backslider in heart will be filled with the fruit of his ways...

14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

12:15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

14:15-16 The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps.
One who is wise is cautious and turns away from evil, but a fool is reckless and careless.

9:13-18 The woman Folly is loud; she is seductive and knows nothing. She sits at the door of her house; she takes a seat on the highest places of the town, calling to those who pass by, who are going straight on their way, "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!" And to him who lacks sense she says, "Stolen water is sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant." But he does not know that the dead are there, that her guests are in the depths of Sheol.

14:32 The wicked is overthrown through his evildoing, but the righteous finds refuge in his death.

21:16 One who wanders from the way of good sense will rest in the assembly of the dead.

4:26 Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure.

12:28 In the path of righteousness is life, and in its pathway there is no death.

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