

Have Faith In Where Your Shepherd Is Leading You!

(Revised: 4/6/2013)

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Sometimes our Shepherd, Jesus Christ, will lead us down a road of rejection. This could be from family, friends or anyone! Jesus knows the road because He went down it before us. At times, His family rejected Him; they thought He was crazy! The Pharisees rejected Jesus; they were jealous of Him. These are just a few who rejected Him. Jesus had perfect virtue in His soul from the filling of the Holy Spirit and the word of God; He obeyed God's standards! People without virtue- without God's word in their souls - don't like to be around people with virtue! Arrogant people, those without virtue, rejected Jesus Christ, our Shepherd.

John 1:11 He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him.



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Jesus Christ knew He had to follow or obey the will of God the Father. Doing this brought rejection along His path. Jesus held firmly to the word of God in His soul. He knew what the Father wanted Him to do and He was willing to do it - go to the cross! Remember, Jesus Christ is 100% humanity and 100% deity. In His humanity, it hurt when He was rejected just like it hurts when we are rejected. However, He had great virtue love in His soul. When He was rejected, He used His virtue love. He never sinned! Virtue follows the will of God! Follow your Shepherd.



Matthew 13:57 And they took offense at Him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and in his *own* household."

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If you live by the word of God, the thinking of Jesus Christ, people will reject the virtue you have from the doctrine in your soul. They are rejecting the truth in you. Remember, the truth is always offensive to someone! This will hurt sometimes, especially when it is rejection from loved ones! Have faith in where Jesus Christ is leading you! He, God the Father and God the Holy Spirit love you more than anyone could! Jesus Christ is leading you to green pastures and the best God has to offer!



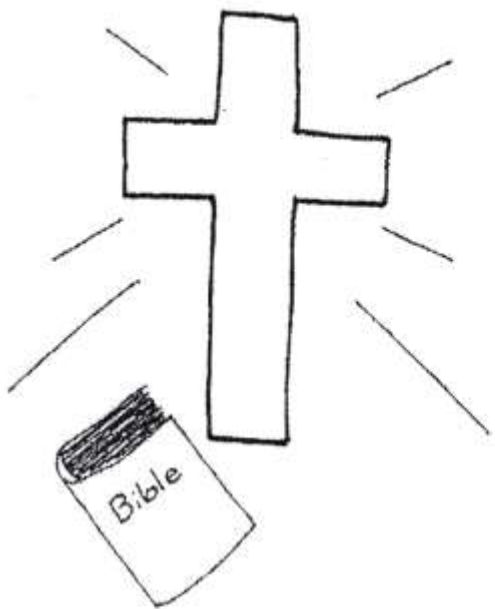
1 Thessalonians 4:8
So, he who rejects
this is not rejecting
man but the God
who gives His Holy
Spirit to you.

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In John 4:46-53, Jesus Christ healed the son of an unbelieving royal official. Jesus was in Cana and the boy was in Capernaum. The official wanted Jesus to go to Capernaum and be with the boy to heal him. Jesus Christ knew that was not necessary.

Remember, Jesus Christ was 100% God and 100% man; in His deity He was omnipotent! He healed the boy while He was in Cana and the boy was in Capernaum! He told the father, the official, to go home; the boy was healed. So the father went home and found out that the boy was healed at the exact time Jesus said he was healed. Then the father believed in the Lord Jesus Christ along

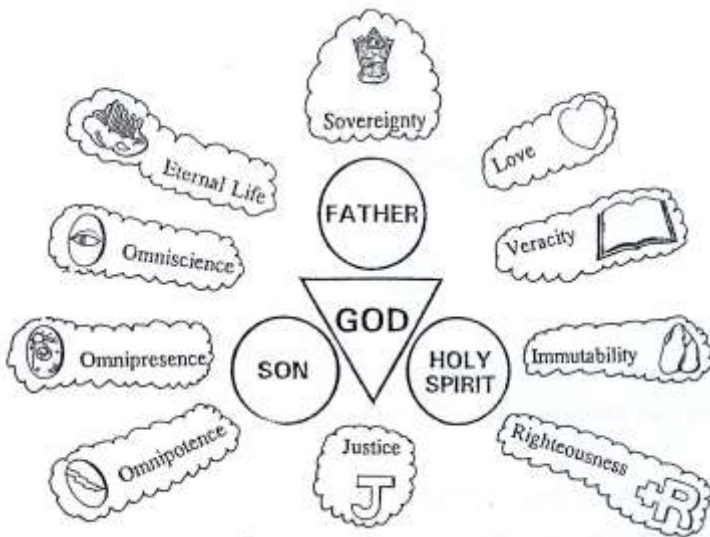
with his whole family!
They had faith in
their Shepherd! God
was glorified!



John 4:53 So the father knew that *it was* at that hour in which Jesus said to him, "Your son lives" ; and he himself believed and his whole household.

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The royal official was probably anxious until he arrived home and saw that his son was healed. He was an unbeliever until that time so he had no doctrine in his soul to hang onto. There are times as believers we have to have faith in the promises of God and hang onto the word of God in our souls! We may be facing some big or small problems. No matter the size, we must believe in the integrity of God and that He has the problem already solved. He just wants us to have faith and see His deliverance. Then He will get the glory because He did the work! Don't be afraid of where your Shepherd is leading you!

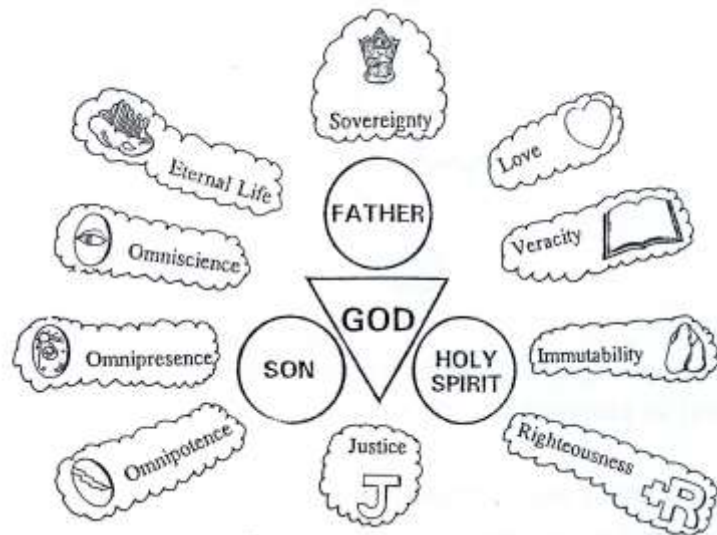


Proverbs 19:21 Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the LORD'S purpose that prevails.



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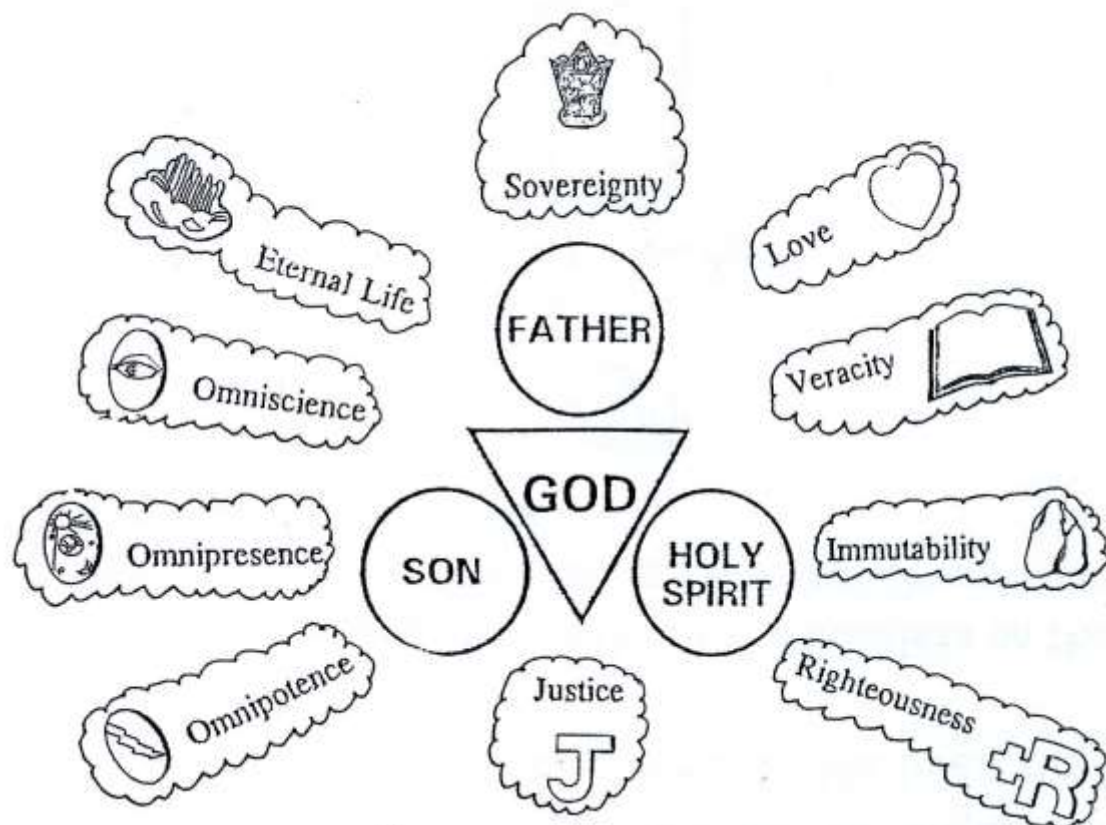
In John 11:1-46, one of Jesus' best friends, Lazarus, was very sick and he died. His sisters, Mary and Martha, sent word to Jesus that Lazarus was sick and they wanted Him to come and heal him. Jesus obeyed the will of God the Father which was to stay two days longer where He was. "But when Jesus heard *this*, He said, 'This sickness is not to end in death, but for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by it.'" Mary was upset because Jesus didn't come sooner and heal Lazarus. She didn't realize that there had to be a good reason for Him not to come right away. She forgot about God's timing being perfect! When Jesus did arrive he went to the tomb of Lazarus and brought him back to life. Imagine everyone's joy! God's glory was revealed by means of **His** plan!



John 11:14-15 So Jesus then said to them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, and I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, so that you may believe; but let us go to him."

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Jesus loved Mary, Martha and Lazarus. He had to do the will of the Father even though He knew it would hurt them. In fact, Mary was angry with Jesus because He didn't come right away. Jesus was upset with the people who were consoling Mary with human viewpoint. She was reacting with emotion rather than responding with the thinking of Christ. However, the will of the Father was accomplished and many people became believers because of what Jesus had done - waiting two days to come to Mary and Martha and then bringing Lazarus back to life. Put yourself in the places of the unbelievers; I think it would make you a believer! God knows the perfect way to get our attention. God knows everything; He is omniscient! He has a perfect plan. They all saw the glory of God!

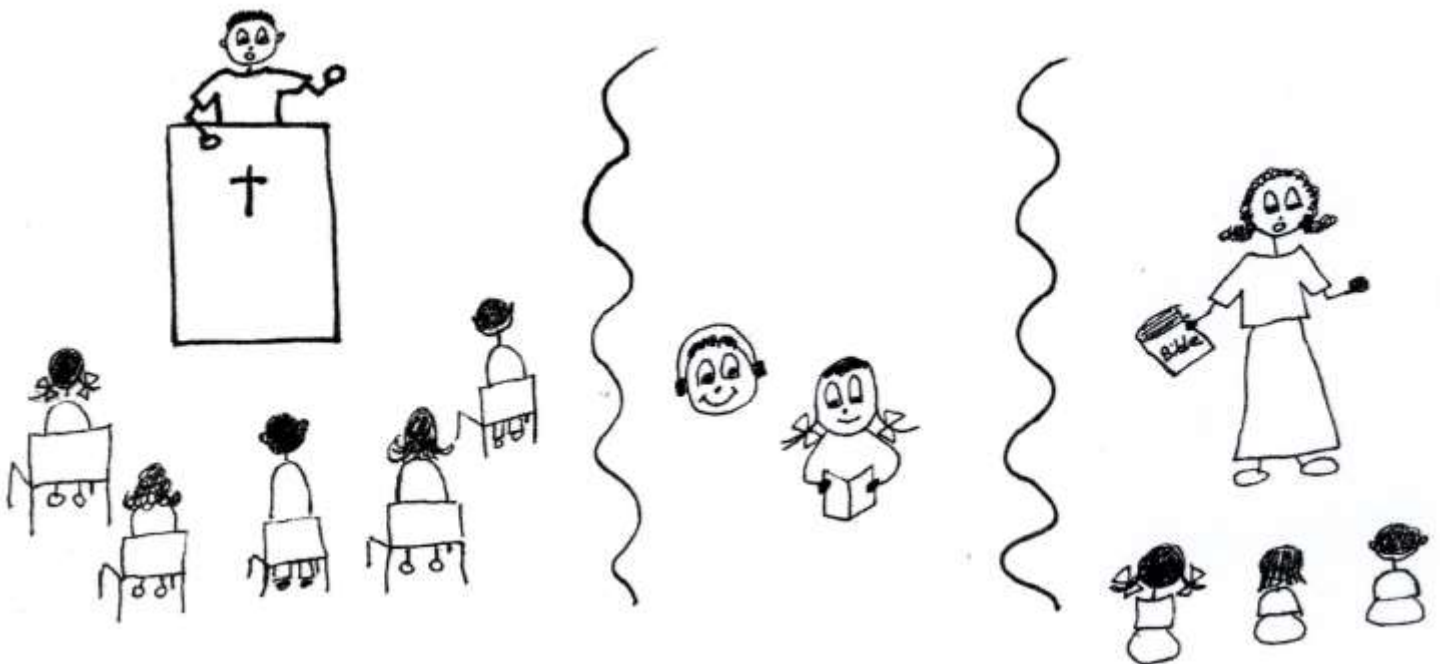


John 11:40 Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

John 11:45 Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary, and saw what He had done, believed in Him.

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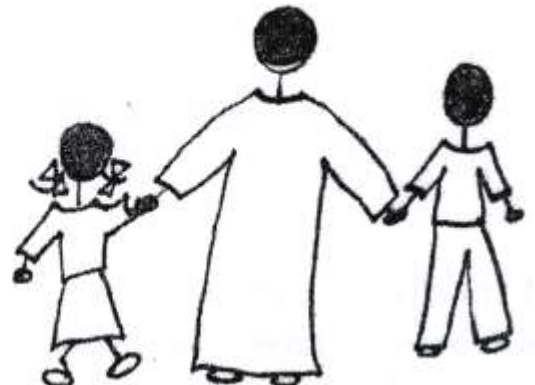
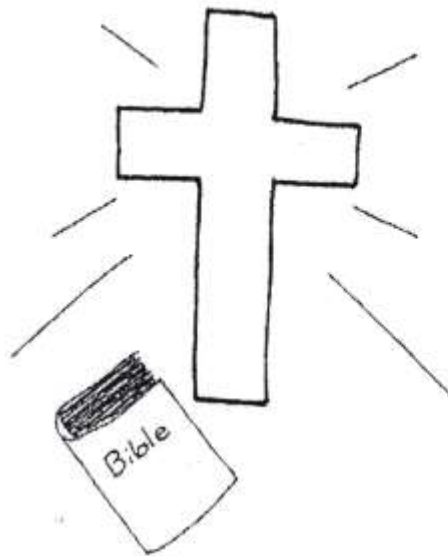
It was all in God's timing to bring Lazarus back to life. We can see how important it was for Jesus Christ to follow God the Father's plan. It is very important that we follow God's plan for our lives. God's timing is not our timing. We must wait on His timing. He is the sovereign One! Mary lost sight of this. We are lost without the word of God! When God takes us to the edge or to a very scary situation, we must lean on Him and His word. He has already solved all of our problems. We have to learn Bible doctrine so we know His thinking and believe that He has everything in control!



Hebrews 4:15 For we do not have a High Priest Who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One Who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.

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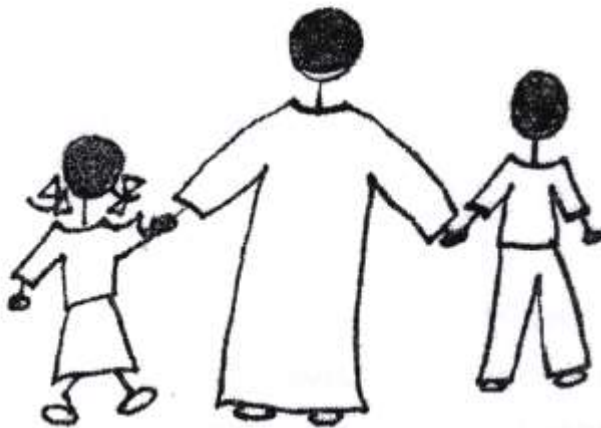
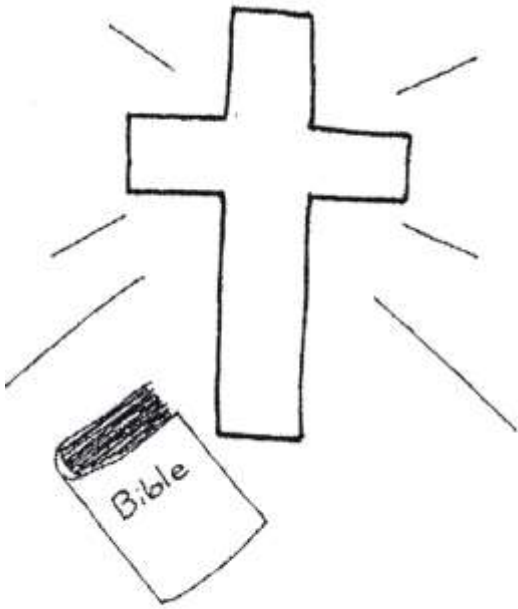
Satan and the cosmic system don't want us to follow our Shepherd. Satan knows every little angle to upset us! Sometimes He will use people to do this. He used people to upset Mary and Martha. John 11:37 "But some of them said, 'Could not this man, who opened the eyes of the blind man, have kept this man also from dying?'" They were fanning the flames of doubt in the word of God. This was upsetting to Jesus. He doesn't want us to be led away from His thinking by people with false thinking! He wants us to follow His lead!



John 8:31 "If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."

Have Faith In Where Your Shepherd Is Leading You!

Jesus Christ will lead us through His thinking. We must have faith in what it teaches us. Believing and using what the word of God says will take us over the spiritual bridges we need to cross. It will get us over troubled waters or troubled situations. There will be people watching to see how we handle these troubles. It just may be God's purpose to put us through tough times so we can be encouraging to others! What a privilege! And God gives us everything we need to succeed - Christ's thinking and the power of the Holy Spirit!



Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Have Faith In Where Your Shepherd Is Leading You!

A true shepherd loves his sheep and will lay down his life for them. The Lord Jesus Christ is our true Shepherd; He has laid down His life for the sheep, all mankind. He laid down His life so we might know the love of the Father. When we learn God's word we learn the thinking of Christ; the more we know about Jesus Christ and God the Father, the more we know of Their love for us. Also, the more we know Them, the more we will love Them. We can experience as much of this love as we want! It is infinite! Our true Shepherd only leads us to green pastures. We must have faith in where Jesus Christ, our true Shepherd, is leading us!



John 10:14-15 I am the good shepherd, and I know My own and My own know Me, even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.

Points for Remember

1. Sometimes our Shepherd will lead us down the road of rejection.
2. Jesus Christ knew He had to follow or obey the will of God the Father.
3. If you live by the word of God, the thinking of Jesus Christ, people will reject the virtue you have from the doctrine in your soul.
4. Jesus Christ healed the son of an unbelieving royal official while He was miles away from him.
5. The royal official was probably anxious until he arrived home and saw that his son was healed.
6. One of Jesus' best friends, Lazarus, was very sick. His family wanted Jesus to come immediately and heal him.
7. It was all in God's timing to heal Lazarus.
8. Satan and the cosmic system don't want us to follow our true Shepherd, the Lord Jesus Christ.
9. Jesus Christ will lead us through His thinking, Bible doctrine.
10. A true shepherd loves his sheep and will lay down his life for his sheep.

Questions for Discussion

1. Why was Jesus rejected? How did He handle rejection?
2. Why might you be rejected? How can you handle it?
3. When did Jesus Christ heal the son of the unbelieving royal official?
4. What happened when the royal official saw that his son was healed?
5. Why didn't Jesus go immediately to Lazarus when He heard he was sick?
6. Why was Mary upset with Jesus?
7. What did Jesus consider His most important responsibility?
8. How can we know the Father's plan for our lives? Why is it important for us to have faith in God the Father's plan for our lives?
9. Why is Jesus Christ our true Shepherd?

My Word Search

W D E V O L S C I O Y M M V Z E J D N S
I M P E R S O N A L Q O C E O G O C B H
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