



The Cross and Crown

a publication of Highway Mission Tabernacle and Resurrection Life Church, Philadelphia, PA

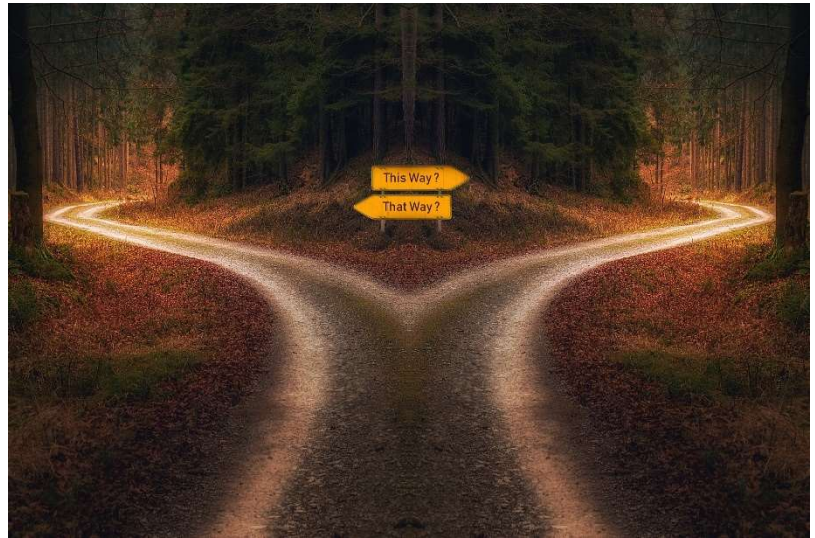
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Joshua's tenure following Moses as leader of the Israelites began with a dramatic victory at Jericho which was followed by a spectacular failure at Ai.

Israel prepared for the battle with Ai by sending out spies, who concluded that it would be a slam dunk. They didn't need to send the whole army out; only a few of the men could take the city. To everyone's surprise, they were routed.

If the leaders had consulted God instead of trusting the assessment of the spies, they would have spared the army from an embarrassing defeat. Instead, it was only after having been overwhelmed in battle that they went to God, who revealed that he had not gone with them, because there was sin in the camp.



How humiliating it must have been to learn that, although they confidently assumed that God was fighting with them, they had, in fact, been on their own – and that, on their own, they were no match even for a much smaller army!

The Israelites learned a painful lesson: We dare not face any obstacle, no matter how small it seems, without consulting God. Jesus taught a similar lesson, saying that, if we're on our way to the altar and realize that someone has something against us, we need to lay down our sacrifice and go make things right. You see, we can't expect to be led by the Spirit if we're living in opposition to his way.

How fervently we seek God when we're facing a major crisis – but, like the Israelites, when we determine that something's minor, we may tend to go in our own wisdom. The truth is that what really matters isn't the magnitude of the problem but, rather, whether God is with us! In order to be led by the Spirit, we must constantly submit to his guidance and scrutiny.

“For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.”

The second of a three-part series

Thanks for your Prayers!




We are so grateful to all of you who lift us up in prayer on a daily or weekly basis. God continues to amaze us with what he's doing on our behalf, and we know that it's because of your prayers!

Please join us in praying for

- physical needs among our leaders and their families,
- God to call people to missions during next month's missions convention, and
- the students, families, teachers and staff of Spring Garden Academy.

We're praying with you!

If you're on our mailing list*, you're on our prayer list! If there's anything specific that we can join you in praying about, please do let us know.

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* **Important:** If you'd rather not be on our mailing list, we understand! Just call or drop us a note, and we'll remove you. (We'll still keep you on our prayer list!)

If you'd rather receive this letter via e-mail, please let us know!

Did you know?

The difference among one million, one billion and one trillion is huge! One million seconds is about 12 days. One billion seconds is about 32 years. One trillion seconds is about 31,688 years!

(All of these are a drop in the bucket, relative to eternity!)

“If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here.” (Exodus 33:15)



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