

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

August 3, 2025 **"Watch Your Step!"**



OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank you for giving us to chance to gather in this time and in this space to seek you together. Help to light our path so that our steps together may be towards you, as we move towards a better understanding of your word and your path. We pray this in the powerful and matchless name of Jesus. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

Ephesians 5:15-20 (NIV)

¹⁵Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. ¹⁸Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 7:13-14 (NIV)

¹³ "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴ But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

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INTRODUCTION

Many spaces we walk have warnings – or even aids available – when the terrain changes and the navigation becomes trickier than walking in a straight line. Stairs have rails to hold on to. Curbs are painted for visibility. Roads have designated crosswalk areas to safely avoid the hazards of vehicular traffic. Our metaphorical walk of life often doesn't have signals that warn us as strongly as we need them to when we start to veer off of our intended path or have a hazard on the horizon. In this week's questions, we'll discuss times we've veered off of the path – and how we can work to stay on it.

QUESTIONS

- 1. When have you felt stuck without knowing which way to go in a practical sense or metaphorical sense? How did you choose the next steps? Were they the right ones?
- 2. When have you encountered a situation where you made things complicated, only to find that the simple answer was the correct one? How can you apply what you learned from that situation to your spiritual walk?
- 3. When is a time in your life that you took the easy path and it caused pain? When is a time that you took the more difficult path but were rewarded for it?
- 4. When is a time that you saw warning signs that you were drifting off of the path you intended to take, but ignored them until it was too late? How did you course-correct? What toll did ignoring the warning signs take?
- 5. What do you find most challenging about taking the right path in your spiritual life? What is a way this group can help to you stay the course?

FINAL APPLICATION

Look for ways this week to help the people in this group – and other people in your "circle" – watch the path they're taking; helping to stay on the path to life eternal.