



A Minute with Pastor March 2015

March 1, 2015

It's rather important who you follow. You don't want to follow the wrong lead car as you head to someone's home for dinner. You don't want to follow the wrong person heading into quite a different movie at the theater than you wanted to see. And you don't want to follow the long-winded speaker before you at a workshop dealing with short attention spans. Yikes!

The Bible instructs us who we should follow:

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God (Romans 8:14)

But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law (Galatians 5:18)

It also instructs us what not to follow:

You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led (1 Corinthians 12:2)

loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts (2 Tim. 3:6)

being led away with the error of the wicked (2 Pt. 3:17)

Be careful who you follow. Also, be careful how you lead! It can take you into pathways of blessings or side roads of sin.

March 15, 2015

Where does the time go? How will I ever get everything done by the due date? Why are there only twenty-four hours in a day? What must I do in order to fit another "to do" item on my list? Will this treadmill ever stop turning – or at least slow down? Where do I go to register for a break from life?

These are the questions that emanate from someone caught up in the "rat race" of life. The business of life is busyness. He is reacting to the tyranny of the urgent and bouncing from crisis to

deadline to demand, and then back to crisis to deadline to demand. It's a never ending cycle of activity that leaves that individual desperate and depleted.

What are we to do? We can't just simply stop living and still function. We can't run and hide, for it will soon find us. And we can't pretend like it's no big deal, especially when our gas tank is telling us we're sucking fumes and nearly on empty.

Not surprisingly, the Bible gives us all the counsel we need in order to live godly. In Exodus 18, two very powerful principles arise – one that is rather obvious and another that isn't so obvious but just as important, if not more so. If you find yourself too busy with no end in sight, may this chapter bring invaluable insight to your schedule and with your sanity. It might just be the difference maker you have been looking for!

March 22, 2015

We are deeply indebted to plans. When the electronic gizmo that I purchase through the internet arrives in the mail, I am thankful that instructions are included in order to figure out how to use this device. When I prepare to separate the laundry into different piles so as not to mix darks and whites as well as delicates and rugged wear, having a tag sewn inside the garment is rather helpful in deciding the water temperature as well as the manner of drying. And when I call my financial advisor, I am thrilled that he has a financial plan that aligns with my desires and gets me where I need to go.

Indeed, plans are very helpful. But could it be that our greatest struggle in life is sticking to our plan and not replacing it with a far greater plan? Is it possible that I default to sight and not faith, that I defer to what works instead of what's biblical? Sadly, too often the answer is "yes."

"My way" does interfere with His way. What I want too frequently dominates the landscape and hinders me from being led by the Spirit of God. At the end of the day, I seem so much more comfortable with my flawed, feeble, fickle and finite plan than His glorious, impeccable, gracious plan. Ouch!

Proverbs 14:12 warns us: "There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death." Beloved, take heed!

March 29, 2015

It's that expression we default to when we make a mistake, say the wrong thing, forget a certain appointment, melt under the pressure, lose perspective, think the sky is falling or react poorly to a situation. "I'm just human!" Indeed you are and with such humanity comes limitation, constraint and restriction.

Every person ever born is but human. We are frail, fickle and feeble. We don't always do what we should do and what we should not do we too often do. We wake up on the "wrong side of the bed" or allow that insignificant "hair in the soup" to ruin our day. After all, "We're just human!"

Thankfully, the God-man entered this world to rescue us from ourselves. To this One who knew no sin, He became sin for us that He might save us from our fallen state and its resultant penalty of sin. Yes, every believer is still human but now you have Someone superhuman as Lord of your life. You are no longer in this alone since the One alone took your place at the cross.

Yet never forget that this Savior, Jesus, is both God and man. Though fully divinity, He was also fully humanity. He can truly understand you. He is touched by your infirmities. After all, He too was "just human." He too, was subject to similar constraints and restrictions. But as Savior, He was without sin!