

# NO PARKING

(This sermon is a revelation of dream received by one of our members on November 14, 2023. The names have all been removed to protect people's identity.)

**LINE #1: “It was a SUNDAY or SATURDAY morning. The sun was rising and there was a lot of SNOW on the ground.”**

The “rising of the sun” represents the coming of the Lord (Son). Moreover, the presence of “snow” tells us that the setting is *winter*.

**Matthew 24:20–21**

**<sup>20</sup> But pray ye that your flight be not in the WINTER, neither on the SABBATH day: <sup>21</sup> For then shall be great TRIBULATION...**

According to this passage, “winter” represents a time of “tribulation” or hardships. In fact, the word that is translated “winter” actually means a rainy or stormy season. Moreover, Jesus said that winter (stormy seasons, hardships) makes it harder to travel on the *sabbath*. The sabbath represents a time of rest (or faith).

This dream is a reminder that we're in a season or climate of challenges or hardships. Moreover, these challenges make it difficult to take “flight” (walk by faith) on “the sabbath” (Saturday or Sunday)!

**LINE #2: “As I pulled into the church, I PARKED NEAR THE WEST wing, but CLOSER TO THE GRASS.”**

While it's good that our speaker parked near the “west wing” (rising of the Son), it's NOT good that he parked near the “grass”. The Bible says, “**All FLESH is as GRASS**” (1Peter 1:24). Thus, parking near the grass suggests that our speaker is not *fully* consecrated!

**LINE #3: “I got out of the car and walked towards the SMALL SIDE DOOR.”**

This “small” door represents our entrance into the kingdom.

**Matthew 18:3**

**<sup>3</sup> And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and BECOME AS LITTLE CHILDREN, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.**

Notice how we must become as “LITTLE” (small) children in order to enter the door of the kingdom!

**LINE #4a: “As I got closer to the door, TWO individuals appeared behind me. One was wearing ALL BLACK but had a BRIGHT SMILE. The other wore beige and even had a PONYTAIL on top of her head. (A hairstyle she has never worn before.) They got my attention through their GIGGLES.**

**LINE #4b: “This caused me to TURN AROUND from the door. They complained that I don’t come around anymore. One of them claimed I only call if there’s a yard show or step show happening (which was NOT TRUE because I regularly call her). Besides, I DON’T DO THOSE ACTIVITIES ANYMORE!”**

Although these two individuals appeared to be friendly (bright smile, ponytail), their behavior (black clothes) and their conversation (giggles and accusations) clearly revealed that they were hostile and wanted to distract the speaker (turn him) from entering the “door” of the church (kingdom)!

**1 Peter 4:3–4**

**<sup>3</sup> For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries: <sup>4</sup> Wherein they think it strange that YE RUN NOT WITH THEM to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you:**

Before we sympathize with our speaker for being attacked, let’s remember that he brought this attack upon himself by “parking near the grass.”

**Psalm 1:1**

**<sup>1</sup> Blessed is the man That walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor standeth in the way of sinners, Nor SITTETH in the seat of THE SCORNFUL.**

Therefore, it matters where we “sit” (who we associate with). As Christians we can’t afford to spend extended time in the company of the ungodly, sinners, or mockers! Also, it’s important to remember that sinners or mockers don’t

**LINE #5: “I don’t recall if either of them followed me inside, but when I walked through the door I noticed that the church LOBBY and HALLWAY were DIMLY LIT. However, the OFFICE LIGHTS were on and BRIGHT.”**

The dimly lit *lobby* and *hallway* represent how we give little attention (light) to *waiting* on God (lobby), nor to walking along the *narrow corridor* (hallway). Yet, we give ALL of our attention (light) to *positions* (offices) in the church.

**Matthew 18:1–3**

**1 At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, WHO IS THE GREATEST in the kingdom of heaven? 2 And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, 3 And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and BECOME AS LITTLE CHILDREN, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.**

Notice that the disciples' focus was on, "Who is the *greatest*?" However, Jesus' focus was on, "Who will be the *least*?"

***LINE #6: "Somehow I ended up in the fellowship hall standing in front of the KITCHEN window. The lights in the FELLOWSHIP HALL were DIM (like at the movies)."***

The "fellowship" hall represents our fellowship with God AND with one another.

**1 John 1:3**

**3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have FELLOWSHIP WITH US: and truly our fellowship is WITH THE FATHER, AND WITH HIS SON Jesus Christ.**

In the dream the fellowship hall was "dimly lit" to demonstrate how many are attempting to fellowship with God while still walking in darkness!

**1 John 1:6**

**6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and WALK IN DARKNESS, we lie, and do not the truth:**

***LINE #7: "I noticed my MOTHER [name] and my old friend FAITH in the KITCHEN."***

The speaker's mother has a name that means "gold". Moreover, in the dream she is with FAITH in the "kitchen"! Here the "kitchen" represents heat or *fiery trials*. (As the saying goes, "If you can't take the heat, get out of the kitchen.")

**1 Peter 1:7**

**7 That the TRIAL OF YOUR FAITH, being much more precious than of GOLD that perisheth, though it be tried with FIRE, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:**

**LINE #8: “As I stood in front of the kitchen, I noticed a group of about 25 people sitting on the LEFT SIDE of the fellowship hall looking at a BRIGHT SCREEN.”**

The “left” side always signifies the place of dishonor or disfavor. Moreover, the number 25 represents one quarter. In this case, it represents 1/4 of those in the kingdom who are “distracted” by the cares of this life (bright lights)!

**Matthew 13:22**

**22 He also that received seed among the THORNS is he that heareth the word; and the CARE OF THIS WORLD, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.**

The word “cares” in this verse means “drawn in different directions; distracted.”

**LINE #9: “There was a TABLE SET UP with two large bowls near the door on the right where the KITCHEN was.”**

Notice, there is a *table* (provision) for those who are where the kitchen (heat) is!

**James 1:2–4**

**2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; 3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. 4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, WANTING NOTHING.**

According to this verses, those who are “tried” in the heat will not be in want (have the provision of God). Therefore, whatever we lack will be found in the KITCHEN, and not while watching the BRIGHT SCREEN.

**LINE #10: “My mother [name] and Faith wore CLEAR GLOVES as they prepared what looked like MEAT for a BARBECUE.”**

People who prepare meals wear “clear gloves” to remove any anxiety from people’s mind that the food might be contaminated or impure. Similarly, we can trust that whatever God has prepared for us is “good” and without any contamination!

**James 1:16–17**

**16 Do not err, my beloved brethren. 17 Every GOOD gift and every PERFECT GIFT is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is NO VARIABLENESS, neither shadow of turning.**

The word “variableness” means pass from hand to hand (as in the transmission of germs). Thus, there is no variableness with God or way for anything harmful to be passed on transmitted to you!

**LINE #11: “After a moment I SAT DOWN and JOINED the rest of the group that was watching the bright screen. I noticed that I was sitting on the RIGHT SIDE but near the CENTER OF THE AISLE.”**

Again, our speaker is parked (or “seated”) alongside those in darkness.

Although he’s on the “right” side, he’s also seated near the *center* of the aisle.

(Being near the “center” can represent being moderate or *lukewarm*.)