

October 29

Acts 2:28 (NIV) ²⁸ You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.'

It was an extreme cross-country race that spanned countries. Each team had a navigator who was responsible for keeping the team on the correct path. This one team, though they did not know it, was in the lead by a considerable margin when they came to a crossroads. The navigator consulted his map and confidently pointed out the path they were to take. Later, the navigator began to doubt his own decision. Something was telling him they were on the wrong path. After alerting the team and checking the map, they realized they had, indeed, taken the wrong path. They turned around and found the right path. The navigator apologized for the mistake, but, despite the team's assurance that all would be fine, he could not get rid of the guilt.

That navigator's mistake reminded me of my spiritual walk with the Lord. He has made known to each of us the path of life we are to take. However, there are days when we can lose sight of that path. One morning, I woke with a concern on my mind. That gave way to "I should have," which only made things worse. Next, I began to chastise myself for not praising the Lord and for not capturing those thoughts. At the time, it seemed like the correct path, but after a few more stumbles on that wrong path, the Lord made known to me the right path and guided me back to it. I was grateful, but I then began to berate myself for making such a mistake, much like that navigator for that team. Finally, the Lord told me there was no place for such thinking on His path of life. Repent, realign, and restart. It was only after I let go of all my mistakes that I could be filled once again with the joy of His presence. His correcting our course is a sign of His love and faithfulness. When we need that correction, let us accept it with thanks, humility, and repentance but not with guilt. What matters is that we are on the right path with Jesus.