

July 31

Isaiah 35:8 (NIV) ⁸ And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness; it will be for those who walk on that Way. The unclean will not journey on it; wicked fools will not go about on it. **Matthew 7:13-14 (NKJV)** [Jesus said,]
¹³ “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. ¹⁴ Because narrow *is* the gate and ^[b]difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.” **Psalm 139:12 (ESV)** ¹² even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.

A good friend recently told us this story. He was spraying army worms late in the day. As the sun set, he turned on the GPS in this tractor to show him the way. In the darkness, the GPS showed a straight, red line that he was to follow. It would keep him perfectly aligned and on track. However, because he could not see his previous tracks or any distinguishing marks, he began to doubt that red line. Before he knew it, instead of going in a straight line, he began making a rainbow. He even crossed over his own path. He finally told us, “I did not trust that GPS.”

As he told us that story, I could immediately see the parallel with our spiritual walks with Jesus. From the beginning, there has only been one straight Way for us to follow. That way is marked by the blood of Jesus. It is straight and narrow and will never change. The Word and Jesus have shown us the way. The Holy Spirit guides us, telling us not to stray to the left or the right. Nevertheless, there are times when our trust falters as darkness surrounds us, and we take our eyes off Jesus and begin to look around. We peer into the darkness wondering if we are missing something. We begin to stray without realizing it. Yet, the darkness is not dark to Jesus. He sees everything clearly. He will never lead us astray. We seem to be surrounded by darkness, and we hear voices telling us the answer lies with them. Jesus, however, has marked that narrow road with His blood. He tells us to trust Him because He has never failed us. Instead of looking to see if the world has anything to offer us, we need to keep our eyes on that straight, narrow road.