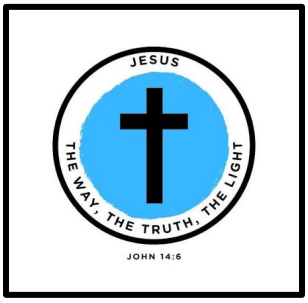
Christ the Way
(John 14:6)



Have you ever traveled and realized you were going the wrong way only to turn around and follow a different path to reach your destination? Have you ever found yourself lost after you thought you had made all the right decisions to accomplish a goal? Have you ever said the wrong thing to someone and had to pray or meditate to make amends? This is real life for those who think they have no one but themselves to steer them in the right direction. Of course you can use a map or a GPS tracker to get to from one point to another on the road when you plan to travel. You could ask your friends or associates for advice about life's decisions, but they will all give you different answers to the same question and you are stuck contemplating which one's advice to take.

The Greek word for *way* is *hodós* meaning "road, path, (or) journey" (www.google.com). Gerhard Kittel lists the same Greek word for *way* with the meaning "road, (and) manner of life" which may also mean "path of life."

Kittel notes that God plans ways for us (Jeremiah 7:23; Psalm 119:15) such as good ways (I Samuel 12:23), right ways (I Samuel 12:23; Proverbs 2:13), ways of truth (Psalm 119:30), and everlasting ways (Psalm 139:24). He writes that "God sees all our ways" (Proverbs 5:21) and will lead us in showing the way we should go in our circumstances (Isaiah 48:17). In other words, God describes himself as the Way Maker (John 14:6), even though we oftentimes follow our own way (Isaiah 56:11; Proverbs 12:15) using our God-given freewill. Our response to the ways given to us by God is our decision or choice in the end.

Christians learn to depend on the guidance of the Spirit of Christ or the Holy Spirit which guides our daily existence and personal decisions we make when it comes to life's challenges or when we get off course. As a matter of fact, Jesus describes himself as "the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6) for those who believe in Him. He comforts His disciples at the Last Supper with this scripture, knowing that his impending death will bring change to their lives. John 14:6 further notes the words of Christ that "No one comes to the Father except through me."

Examples of God as the Way Maker include:

- Jeremiah 29---God set the captives (Jews) free from the 70-year Babylonian. In the Bible, "it was the Babylonian commander Nebuzaradan who set Jeremiah himself free from his chains when Jerusalem fell. Many think it was Jeremiah who set the captives free.

- Exodus 14:21-29---Moses led the Israelites through the Red Sea as he stretched out his hand and staff and saved them from Pharaoh and his ensuing army of men. God parted the Red Sea by sending a strong East wind. In other words, he made a way out of no way (Psalm 77:19).

- John 4:3---Jesus is the Way Maker or way to eternity for the 12 Disciples as he goes away and promises to prepare a place for them when he will finally take them to be with himself. This comforts their hearts as him impending death is close.

- Hebrews 2:9-11---Jesus is a Way Maker for modern-day Christians. He died on the Cross conquering sins and death for all humanity. When it seems that there is no way out, we only need to turn down our plates or fast and pray with a sincere heart as an indication of our belief in the Savior of the universe (Hebrews 11:6).

Josh Derrick, in an article titled "God is a Way Maker," notes the following:

> When you feel defeated, trapped, or just exhausted…God is a way maker.
> When you don't see any way to get through…God is a miracle worker.
> When you don't know how to trust anyone…Go is a promise keeper.

When everything around is dark…God is a light in the darkness.
So give God the Way Maker a chance to show you how he could make a way for you. Live in the ways of a godly lifestyle. You will not regret it!

Minister Adjinoria H. Tomlin
Sermonette 88
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Resources

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