

John 6:38,
"For I came down from heaven,
NOT TO DO MINE OWN WILL,
but the will of him that sent me."

John 8:50, "And I seek not mine own glory."

John 8:28-29, "I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things. For I do always those things that please him."

John 10:17-18, "Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father."

1 Timothy 1:16, "Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting."

1. THE PATH BEGINS WITH A GOD-LED SENSE OF UTTER HELPLESSNESS.

Acts 9:4, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?"

Acts 9:5, "And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks."

Acts 9:6, "And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?

Acts 9:6, "And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do."

2. THE PATH LEADS THROUGH SUFFERING.

Acts 9:15-16, "But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake."

2 Corinthians 1:3-6, "Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ. And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation."

2 Corinthians 1:3, "the God of all comfort;"

2 Corinthians 1:6, "is for your consolation and salvation."

3. THE PATH LEADS TO A SINGLE AMBITION.

Isaiah 30:21, "And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left."

4. THE PATH BRINGS CONTENTMENT WHEREVER YOU ARE WITH WHATEVER YOU HAVE.

Acts 9:15, "But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:"

Acts 9:20, "And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God."

Acts 9:22, "But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ."

Acts 9:23, "And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to KILL him:"

Acts 9:26, "And when Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple."

Acts 15:7, "Men and brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe."

Acts 13:46, "Lo, we turn to the Gentiles."

Acts 13:48-49, "And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed. And the word of the Lord was published throughout all the region."

Acts 13:50, "But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts."

Acts 14:1, " a great multitude both of the Jews and also of the Greeks believed."

Acts 14:5, "there was an assault made both of the Gentiles, and also of the Jews with their rulers, to use them despitefully, and to stone them,"

Philippians 4:11, "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content."

V. PAUL'S CONTENTMENT WAS THE RESULT OF A SURRENDERED LIFE.

1 Timothy 6:6-8, "But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content."

1 Corinthians 2:2, "For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified."