

## Lessons through a windshield Part XII

### U Turns



Acts 9:1-10

Sometimes, without a U Turn in life we can end up in some places we would rather not be, doing things we should not do.

U Turns are akin to repentance or the idea of changing ones mind or direction from going away **from** God to going **towards** God.

I. One of the great U Turns in all history Acts 9

Paul was approaching Damascus for one reason V 1-2 and when he made his U Turn V 3-8 he approached for a totally different reason V 19-23. God has some productive purpose in the situations and decisions we find in our lives.

Today, lets think about some areas where it would be wise to make U Turns and where it would be detrimental if we did make some. First lets think about

II. The wise U Turns in life

A. It is wise to make one if you are spiritually lost or dead in sin

1. Romans 3:10-18 reminds us that man does not naturally go after God. They don't naturally seek him.

They may seek what they think he should do for them but they do not seek him for the eternal life he offers, just the material or emotional things they can get from him.

2. Here is one place a U Turn is always okay. Jesus wants you to make a U Turn towards him and do it before it is too late. You can find out how to do that when you get to the end of these notes

#### B. A U turn is wise if we have bad attitudes

1. When we are selfish in our attitudes we need to make a U Turn and remember Philippians 2:3,4

2. When we are apathetic in our attitudes, we need to think about where we would be if Jesus had been apathetic about coming to save lost mankind.

3. When we are in an attitude of procrastination, the U Turn needs to be made in light of John 9:4 where it says night is coming when we can't work.

#### C. If we feel ourselves slipping spiritually

1. We can sometimes feel ourselves slipping spiritually. There are many reasons for this. Lack of Christian fellowship, Bible reading, little Christian service, wrong priorities etc. just to name a few.

2. Make a U Turn and remember Hebrews 12:1,2 and the encouragement and challenge they give us in this area.

### III. The unwise U Turns in life

First it is unwise

#### A. If you are a child of God

1. The things we left back in the old life are really not worth turning to go back to no matter how good we thought they may have looked.

Making a U Turn and going back, is to go back to the hard labor of guilt, frustration, and the forced labor of sin.

B. You are spiritually discouraged and ready to quit

1. In times of discouragement it is easy to say, I'm outta here.

2. Dennis De Haan writes, In the dark tunnels, God always helps us appreciate the glorious light of His grace.

3. In thinking about his statement, a tunnel is a very bad place to try and make a U Turn isn't it? Better to go on to the end.

C. You are tired and overworked

1. Those who work for the Lord and invest much time and energy in His service often get to places where they feel like making a U Turn and going back to the quiet life. This isn't a wise move.

2. Remember dear one, that the image of Christ that is being developed in you through this hard work is not worth missing because of an unwise and hurried U Turn.

3. Jesus could have made a U Turn on the way to the cross, but thank God He didn't.

Lets remember there is a time where U Turns are legal and good. But there are times when they are illegal and bad for us. Lets be sure that we make the right ones, at the right times, in the right places, and for the right reasons and we will find that our trip down the narrow road will be more victorious.

Have a good forward moving week in the Lord !! Be careful of the trap of making a bad U Turn and thus miss a blessing.

Just a final thought, If you are reading this and you have never met Christ you can make a lifesaving U Turn by reading the following and doing what it says.

Realize you are a sinner Romans 3:23

Understand that the payday for sin is death or eternal conscious separation from God.

Romans 6:23a

Know that there is a way of escape for you. Romans 6:23b and John 1:12

Desire to escape and pray this or a similar prayer.

"Dear God, I know I am a sinner. I am truly sorry for my sins, and I confess them all to You [name them]. Lord Jesus, forgive all my sins and come into my heart as my Saviour and Lord. I receive You right now. Help me from this time forward to live for You. Thank You for hearing and answering my prayer. In Jesus' name. Amen."

On the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ I became a Christian by inviting Jesus Christ into my life to forgive my sin.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have further questions or have chosen to do this, be sure to let us know so we can help you, pray for you and encourage you in your new life.

You can reach us at [lapeerchurch@gmail.com](mailto:lapeerchurch@gmail.com) Subject line: (Salvation)