

# Jesus Is The Way

## Lesson 10: Avoiding Distracting Detours



Discovering God's Word

Bible Study Series

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## Lesson 10: Avoiding Distracting Detours

Learn how Satan tries to distract you from following Jesus and how you can overcome these distractions

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Discovering God's Word Bible Study Series

**Study Number:** DGW204

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**About the author:** My name is Eric Krieg. I am a disciple of Jesus, a Bible student, a truth seeker, and an evangelist. My interest is in using the Bible as my only guide in my faith. My desire is to help others understand the message of the Bible and pursue true, New Testament Christianity.

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**My plea:** It is my hope and prayer that you are searching for the truth that is contained in God's word, the Bible. My desire is to help you understand and obey these truths God has revealed in the pages of His word. It is to that end that I write this material. Please observe all of the Scripture references and evaluate whether the conclusions I have drawn are in harmony with God's word. If they are, I ask that you make honest application of those truths to your life and obey God's instructions.

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# Jesus Is The Way

## Lesson 10:

# Avoiding Distracting Detours

Jesus is the way to everything that is important and worthwhile. As we have already seen, Jesus is the way to truth, the way to victory over sin and death, the way to God, the way to Heaven, the way to a better life, the way to a joyful life, and the way out of religious confusion. In John 14:6, Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Now, after considering what Jesus leads us to if we will follow Him, we need to recognize that there are many detours we may choose to take. You see, the devil really does not want us to follow Jesus. So, he is trying to lure us with things along the road that look more appealing than following Jesus. The Bible calls these temptations.

But, Satan knows that if he can get us to take a detour from following Jesus, he might be able to get us to go further and further away from Christ and get us lost or caught up on a different journey. You know how it goes whenever you are traveling and make a “quick detour.” What starts out to be a quick side track from your journey often turns out to be much more. Maybe you spend longer on the detour than you anticipated. Maybe you find other things to do along the way. Maybe you get lost and spend all the time you have on the detour.

Many who begin following Jesus Christ get caught up in one (or more) of these distracting detours – and some of them don’t even realize it! Whenever Jesus taught concerning the parable of the sower, seed, and soils, He taught how the seed of God’s word reacts to the different types of soil. In one particular example, Jesus taught how some seed would be planted in thorny soil so that when the seed sprouted and the plant tried to grow and produce fruit it would be choked out by all the weeds. When He explained the parable, He said that these are like “the ones who hear the word, but the worries of this age, the deceitfulness of wealth, and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful” (Mark 4:18-19). These are the distracting detours of life that try to get us side-tracked from following Jesus Christ.

In this tenth lesson, we want to consider the fact that there are many distracting detours along the path as we follow Jesus. We will consider why we get distracted. We will consider some things that work to distract us. And, we will consider some things we must remember so as to stay on course and not become distracted. So, no matter where you are right now, you must recognize that Satan is trying to distract you from following Jesus!

## Why We Get Distracted

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As you think about the thorny soil in Jesus’ parable, one question to consider is: Why do people have so much “weed seed” in their hearts that compete with God and His word? That is, why is Satan so effective at distracting people from the things that will be most beneficial for them? After all, there is no question that Jesus leads us to much better things than all of the detours in this life combined (as we’ve been considering throughout this series). Yet, we continuously fight distractions. Let’s consider a few reasons why distractions are such a lure, so that we might be better equipped to stay focused on following Jesus.

## ***We are dual-natured beings***

Our nature is different from everything else on this earth. When God created all things (as recorded by Genesis 1), He created people in a special way. Genesis 1:26-27 explains, “Then God said, ‘Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, the whole earth, and the creatures that crawl on the earth.’ So God created man in his own image; he created him in the image of God; he created them male and female.”

Notice that we are dual-natured beings. Obviously, we have been created with a physical element to our nature. But, this passage demonstrates that we were also created in God’s image, according to His likeness. Since God is a spiritual Being rather than a physical Being (John 4:24), this means that we have also been created to be spiritual beings.

This puts us all in a very interesting place as we try to navigate life on this earth. We live in a world of physical things, while being able to anticipate a future spiritual home and seek after God. No other physical thing has the same dilemma – as the Bible shows that these two parts of our natures fight against each other.

In Galatians 5:17, the apostle Paul wrote, “For the flesh desires what is against the Spirit, and the Spirit desires what is against the flesh; these are opposed to each other, so that you don’t do what you want.” Those who are interested in spiritual things and following what God’s Spirit has revealed in the pages of the Bible fight against the physical desires constantly. And, Satan is trying to appeal to these physical desires as we try to follow Jesus so as to distract us and get us to sin against God (James 1:14-15). So, “those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires” (Galatians 5:24). That is, we cannot allow our physical desires to dictate our actions. Instead, we must stay focused on the spiritual things.

But, this is definitely not easy. The apostle Paul gives us a glimpse into the battle that we fight between our fleshly and spiritual natures whenever we learn what God wants us to do (as revealed in the pages of Scripture). Listen to Romans 7:14-25.

“For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold as a slave to sin. For I do not understand what I am doing, because I do not practice what I want to do, but I do what I hate. Now if I do what I do not want to do, I agree with the law that it is good. So now I am no longer the one doing it, but it is sin living in me. For I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my flesh. For the desire to do what is good is with me, but there is no ability to do it [i.e. not the doing of what is good]. For I do not do the good that I want to do, but I practice the evil that I do not want to do. Now if I do what I do not want, I am no longer the one that does it, but it is the sin that lives in me. So I discover this law: When I want to do what is good, evil is present with me. For in my inner self I delight in God’s law, but I see a different law in the parts of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and taking me prisoner to the law of sin in the parts of my body. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I myself am serving the law of God, but with my flesh, the law of sin.”

Now, appreciate that Paul was talking about our dilemma apart from Jesus Christ in this passage. So, essentially, he is saying that he knew God’s law that is focused on spiritual things and wanted to do what is right, but he often lost the battle against the flesh and found himself doing things he did not want to do – even things he hated. Satan won the battle by getting Paul distracted by his fleshly desires to do things that violated God’s laws. And, this left him in a hopeless condition of being spiritually dead (separated from God). Thankfully, Jesus Christ provides the solution to the problem of sin (as we discussed in lesson four)! Now, there is “no condemnation for those in Christ” because Jesus has provided the perfect sacrifice and those who “do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit” can be made right with God through Jesus (Romans 8:1-4)!

Still, we must actively fight this war between the flesh and the spirit. The fleshly part of our natures is still pulling us to live according to our physical desires. Yet, the spiritual part of our natures keeps

reminding us about what God wants from our lives and the eternity still to come.

Romans 8:5-8 continues, “For those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit have their minds set on the things of the Spirit. Now the mind-set of the flesh is death, but the mind-set of the Spirit is life and peace. The mind-set of the flesh is hostile to God because it does not submit to God’s law. Indeed, it is unable to do so. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.”

So, this issue must be settled within our minds. What will we choose to focus on while we live on this earth? If we focus on the physical side of our natures, we will not live to please God and will suffer the consequences. But, if we focus on the spiritual side of our natures, we will live by God’s instructions and will be rewarded. The choice is ours – but Satan is trying to make things as difficult as he can for us by trying to distract us and get us to switch our focus from spiritual things to physical things!

### ***Physical things can seem more appealing, immediate, and necessary***

Satan is often successful at getting people to take distracting detours because physical things can seem more appealing, immediate, and necessary. For those who do not recognize their spiritual nature, the physical is the only part that is considered. But, even for those who are focused on spiritual things, the temptation is to consider physical things in a way that seems more relevant than spiritual things at a given moment. Consider each one of the things I mentioned.

First, Satan wants to distract us by making physical things seem more appealing than spiritual things. Many people have taken detours because they want to satisfy their physical desires more than they want the spiritual things that come from following Jesus. They want the physical treasures more than the spiritual treasures. They simply are more appealing now because many are focused on physical things rather than spiritual things. For example, 2 Timothy 4:10 speaks of a man named Demas who got distracted from following Jesus because “he loved this present world.” There was simply something he

wanted here more than he wanted what following Jesus leads to.

Second, Satan wants to distract us by making physical things seem more immediate than spiritual things. Although Jesus provides some spiritual blessings for us to enjoy now, the fact is that living for God and focusing on spiritual things requires that we focus further down the road. Yet, Satan comes along and puts up attracting billboards to catch our eyes, advertising that they are “right off the next exit.” So, many people get distracted by physical things because they provide more immediate gratification. Satan says that we can have all these things that appeal to our fleshly natures right now – while God says we will have to wait.

Third, Satan wants to distract us by making physical things seem more necessary than spiritual things. The truth is that there are certain physical things we all need to survive. These are food, drink, and clothing. Now, Satan wants other things to be added to this list so that they seem more important than they really are. He wants us to become so worried about having those physical things that we will lose our focus on spiritual things. For, many people get so distracted by chasing after the things they believe they need to survive or to have a happy life that they fail to do what God says is actually the most important and necessary.

So, as Satan tries to distract us with physical things by making them seem more appealing, immediate, and necessary than spiritual things, he often succeeds in snuffing out God’s word from being fruitful in our lives. We may still want to live for God. We may still claim to live for God. We may just say we are “taking care of business.” But, Satan knows that he has us caught on a distracting detour.

### ***Spiritual things often get ignored or procrastinated***

While many people are focused on physical things being more appealing, immediate, and necessary than spiritual things, they must still do something with their spiritual nature. And, what they often choose to do with the spiritual is one of two things. Either they will ignore the spiritual so that it does not get in their way of living for the physical or

they procrastinate the spiritual until they get the physical things they want or until they believe they have to focus on spiritual things.

First, people often try to ignore the spiritual things. They may not understand God's truths about the spiritual nature He has created them to possess. Or, they may just not want to acknowledge this spiritual nature because it will take away from what they are focused on doing physically.

This is like the parable Jesus taught about the rich fool in Luke 12:16-20. Jesus told this story about a rich man whose land was very productive. So, he decided to tear down his barns and build bigger ones to store his crops. Then, he would have what he felt he needed and could just relax, take it easy, and enjoy himself. However, he died that night. In all his focus on physical things, there was zero indication that he thought about spiritual things.

Second, people often procrastinate with the spiritual things. They take one of Satan's distracting detours with the intention that they will get on the right road later in life. So, they focus on all kinds of things that seem appealing, immediate, and necessary to their physical natures. And, they comfort themselves in their decisions not to fully follow Jesus Christ right now because they say they will change at some point.

Yet, most of them never do find their ways to (or back to) Jesus. You see, Satan has a way of distracting us with something that looks like it is "right off the next exit" – and then catches our attention with something else "right down the street," which leads to another "nearby attraction," which leads to the "next town down the road," etc., etc., etc. So, it has been correctly stated that sin takes us further than we wanted to go, keeps us longer than we wanted to stay, and costs us far more than we wanted to pay! Not only may we never find our way back to the main road, but we may also lead other people down the same path. And, even if we do eventually find the main road we should have never left to begin with, we have lost all kinds of time and opportunity! Therefore, don't fall for the lie that there will be a more convenient opportunity to follow Jesus (see Acts 24:25)!

As you live on this earth, you must not let Satan get you so distracted by physical things that you either ignore spiritual things or procrastinate with them! Many people have reached a place of spiritual destruction by going down these roads. Instead, God wants you to place great emphasis on the spiritual side of your nature and know that it is the most important part of living on this earth!

## **Satan's Distracting Attractions**

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You know how it is. You are driving down the highway on the way to your destination and you see something that attracts you – and you make a detour. Maybe it's a billboard along the road. Maybe it's an advertisement you hear on the radio. Maybe it's a brochure or advertisement you've seen. Somehow you have learned about an attraction that takes you away from where you set out to go. As we've seen, Satan works to attract us to physical things and distract us from following Jesus. In the parable in Mark 4, Jesus said these were worries, wealth, and desires for other things. So, we want to consider some of the main area attractions in this world Satan commonly uses to get people to take distracting detours (Note that Satan can use any physical thing in your life to get you to take one of his detours).

### **Success**

Satan wants to distract people with physically-focused ideas about what "success" in life looks like. He wants to paint all kinds of pretty pictures about the successful man, woman, or family that focuses on physical things. Take a moment to think about the picture Satan has given you about what success on this earth looks like. Is it focused on physical things or spiritual things?

He has succeeded in convincing many people that they are only successful in their lives if they do or have any number of physical things. We'll be talking about many of these things in greater detail. Maybe it's owning a certain kind of house. Maybe it's having a certain kind of job. Maybe it's making a certain amount of money. Maybe it's having a

certain kind of family. Maybe it's living in a certain place. Maybe it's doing certain things you find enjoyable. Maybe it's having a certain kind of physical impact. It may be a lot of things.

King Solomon (who wrote the book of Ecclesiastes) took this detour in his life. The entire book of Ecclesiastes is about his search for success in life. He tried everything he thought might possibly result in being successful and happy in his life. However, he found out that none of it actually did result in being successful. Instead, as he closed the book that detailed his search for successful living, he said, "When all has been heard, the conclusion of the matter is this: fear God and keep his commands, because this is for all humanity. For God will bring every act to judgment, including every hidden thing, whether good or evil" (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14). That is, nothing that pertains to this world will result in you being successful. Only fearing God and keeping His commandments will result in a truly successful life! Yet, as we learn from his lifetime of searching for success through physical things, we notice some of the things he tried and failed to find success through.

### **Wealth**

Satan succeeded in distracting Solomon by earthly wealth. Solomon wrote, "I increased my achievements. I built houses and planted vineyards for myself. I made gardens and parks for myself and planted every kind of fruit tree in them. I constructed reservoirs for myself from which to irrigate a grove of flourishing trees. I acquired male and female servants and had slaves who were born in my house. I also owned livestock – large herds and flocks – more than all who were before me in Jerusalem. I also amassed silver and gold for myself, and the treasure of kings and provinces. I gathered male and female singers for myself, and many concubines, the delights of men. So I became great and surpassed all who were before me in Jerusalem; my wisdom also remained with me" (Ecclesiastes 2:4-9).

Satan tries to distract many people with earthly wealth today. He wants us to value our money and possessions more than everything else. So, he wants us to put our careers first in our lives. He wants us to work diligently to move up the corporate ladder.

He wants us to put in as long of hours as is required in order to have the kind of paycheck that is desired so as to support our standard of living. He wants us to put great emphasis on our retirement and 401K. He wants us to be focused on our physical possessions and accumulating even more.

### **Pleasures**

Satan succeeded in distracting Solomon by earthly pleasures. Solomon wrote, "I said to myself, 'Go ahead, I will test you with pleasure; enjoy what is good.' But it turned out to be futile. I said about laughter, 'It is madness,' and about pleasure, 'What does this accomplish?' I explored with my mind the pull of wine on my body – my mind still guiding me with wisdom – and how to grasp folly, until I could see what is good for people to do under heaven during the few days of their lives" (Ecclesiastes 2:1-3). He went on to say, "All that my eyes desired, I did not deny them. I did not refuse myself any pleasure, for I took pleasure in all my struggles. This was my reward for all my struggles" (Ecclesiastes 2:10). This pursuit of pleasure even included whatever sexual pleasures he desired. For, this man had 700 wives and 300 concubines (1 Kings 11:3).

Satan tries to distract many people with earthly pleasures today. He wants us to live in search of the next worldly pleasure. This could be the pleasures of illicit sexual relationships. This could be pleasures found through consuming alcoholic beverages or using drugs. This could be the pleasures of carefree living through the pursuit of hobbies, entertainment, and recreation. This could be the pleasures of eating the best tasting food possible. This could be the pleasures of traveling and vacationing.

### **Relationships**

Satan succeeded in distracting Solomon by earthly relationships. As king, Solomon had many relationships to experience. Certainly, this included his 700 wives, 300 concubines, and his children. At one point in his life, Solomon built his life on this foundation. His focus was on having these relationships and pleasing his wives and concubines (read 1 Kings 11:1-8). His love for these women even surpassed his love for God. Then, he had the



attention of all the people in the nation of Israel who were under his command. Surely, as such a powerful and wealthy king, he could have had relationships with anyone he had desired.

Satan tries to distract many people with earthly relationships today. He wants us to live for our families. He wants us to do everything we possibly can to have a happy home and close family ties. He wants us to please our spouses and children more than anything. He wants us to make sure that our children have everything they want. He wants us to get our children involved in all kinds of sports and hobbies – even if we have to spend all our time running them to these activities. Or, He wants us to live for our friends. He wants us to work diligently to develop and maintain these relationships. And, he wants us to think there is nothing more enjoyable than spending time with these individuals.

### ***Knowledge***

Satan succeeded in distracting Solomon by earthly knowledge. One of the most notable things about Solomon was his wisdom. In fact, God even blessed him with great wisdom (see 1 Kings 3:4-14). And, although this kind of wisdom that comes from God is a wonderful thing and helps us live right, Solomon (apparently) also sought earthly wisdom. Ecclesiastes 1:16 says, “I said to myself, ‘See, I have amassed wisdom far beyond all those who were over Jerusalem before me, and my mind has thoroughly grasped wisdom and knowledge.’”

Satan tries to distract many people with earthly knowledge and wisdom today. This kind of wisdom is *not* the wisdom that comes from God, but it is the “wisdom” that is widely accepted by the people of the world. So, Satan wants us to value our worldly education and collegiate degrees we have obtained. He wants us to seek to understand the world only through the things that we can observe around us. He wants us to strive to learn the latest philosophies. He wants our ambition in life to be using this “wisdom” to make more prosperity on this earth, preserve this earth for future generations, etc.

### ***Prominence***

Satan succeeded in distracting Solomon by earthly prominence. Again, remember that Ecclesiastes 2:9 says, “So I became great and surpassed all who were before me in Jerusalem; my wisdom also remained with me.” He was king. He was wealthy. He had all kinds of things to please him. He had all kinds of relationships. He was known for his wisdom. From an earthly perspective, you couldn’t get any more prominent than King Solomon!

Satan tries to distract many people with earthly prominence today. He wants people to work and work until they are recognized as being “somebody.” And, he wants people to think they are “nobody” until they have done the things society says is important to become “somebody.” To become “somebody,” he wants us to focus on getting or achieving all the things that other people find so valuable (such as we have been discussing). So, Satan often distracts people with a lure toward fame, fortune, and authority from a worldly perspective.

### ***False religion***

Finally, Satan succeeded in distracting Solomon by false religion. Although Solomon had, at one time, been a servant of the true God, he allowed his heart to be turned away from God by his many foreign wives and concubines. 1 Kings 11:4-8 says, “When Solomon was old, his wives turned his heart away to follow other gods. He was not wholeheartedly devoted to the Lord his God, as his father David had been. Solomon followed Ashtoreth, the goddess of the Sidonians, and Milcom, the abhorrent idol of the Ammonites. Solomon did what was evil in the Lord’s sight, and unlike his father David, he did not remain loyal to the Lord. At that time, Solomon built a high place for Chemosh, the abhorrent idol of Moab, and for Milcom, the abhorrent idol of the Ammonites, on the hill across from Jerusalem. He did the same for all his foreign wives, who were burning incense and offering sacrifices to their gods.”

Satan tries to distract many people with false religion today. Some of these individuals may reject Jesus Christ completely and refuse to follow the



teachings of the Bible at all. So, some practice Atheism, Buddhism, Hinduism, Satanism, Humanism, Islam, etc. There are others who do believe that the Bible is the word of God and that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, but they do not practice and believe all that the Bible teaches. Therefore, there are many people who practice a form of “Christianity.” Yet, their “Christianity” is not according to the true teachings of the Bible. As such, they may be involved in denominationalism and/or other forms of religious error.

## Staying On Course

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As you travel through your life, Satan is trying to distract you with all of these things – and any other physical thing he can possibly use. Yet, you can live without giving in to his distractions. You can stay focused on the right things and stay on course. But, to do so, you must remember a few things.

### ***Remember that you are at war***

If you want to be truly successful by living for God, you must remember that there is a war between your fleshly and spiritual natures. Galatians 5:16-17 says, “I say then, walk by the Spirit and you will certainly not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is against the Spirit, and the Spirit desires what is against the flesh; these are opposed to each other, so that you don’t do what you want.”

You cannot just live every day however you feel like living and do whatever you feel like doing. If you live in this way, the flesh is sure to win out – and Satan will be successful in distracting you from what is most important in life! Instead, you must live every day like you are fighting another battle in a life-long war. Every day, you must recognize that your fleshly nature is going to be drawn toward things that fail to please God and puts your soul in jeopardy. So, you must be spiritually-minded so that you will conduct your life according to how God desires you to live. While many people act as if there is no war going on between the flesh and the spirit,

you cannot afford to live such a civilian lifestyle! To do so will certainly result in losing the war! 2 Timothy 2:3-4 says, “Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in the concerns of civilian life; he seeks to please the commanding officer.”

### ***Remember that Jesus is the Way***

If you want to be truly successful by living for God, you must remember that Jesus is the Way. You must stay focused on and treasure all that Jesus Christ leads you to. Remember, He has said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me” (John 14:6).

You need to remember everything we have discussed in this series and recognize those things Jesus leads you to as being more important than anything Satan is trying to distract you with! And, by remembering what Jesus leads you to, you should also remember the consequences of Satan’s distracting detours. Remember that Jesus is the way to truth; Satan is the way to deception. Remember that Jesus is the way to victory over sin and death; Satan is the way to defeat. Remember that Jesus is the way to God; Satan is the way to separation from God. Remember that Jesus is the way to Heaven; Satan is the way to Hell. Remember that Jesus is the way to a better life; Satan is the way to a worse life. Remember that Jesus is the way to a joyful life; Satan is the way to an unfulfilling life. And, remember that Jesus is the way out of religious confusion; Satan is the way to religious error and division. So, you must carefully determine which of these ways you want to go – and whether Satan’s distracting detours are really worth it!

### ***Remember that earthly things won’t last***

If you want to be truly successful by living for God, you must remember that earthly things won’t last. Jesus said, “Don’t store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don’t break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:19-21).

While Satan wants you to think that earthly things are more appealing, immediate, and necessary, Jesus reminds you that they are not. In fact, they are all very temporary. For one, they usually do not even last very long for us to enjoy during our lives. Then, they certainly will not benefit us whenever we die. This is what King Solomon came to realize about all the physical things he had been chasing. Because he realized that he would die and no earthly thing would benefit him any longer, he said, “When I considered all that I had accomplished and what I had labored to achieve, I found everything to be futile and a pursuit of the wind. There was nothing to be gained under the sun” (Ecclesiastes 2:11). In the same way, you need to remember that you cannot take any earthly thing with you when you die. 1 Timothy 6:7 says, “For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out.”

***Remember that you will reap what you sow***

If you want to be truly successful by living for God, you must remember that you will reap what you sow. That is, how you live on this earth does matter to what your soul will experience after your earthly life ends. Galatians 6:7-8 says, “Don’t be deceived: God is not mocked. For whatever a person sows he will also reap, because the one who sows to his flesh will reap destruction from the flesh, but the one who sows to the Spirit will reap eternal life from the Spirit.”

Remember, when King Solomon concluded that the only thing that really mattered in life was fearing God and keeping His commandments, He said that God would bring “every act to judgment, including every hidden thing, whether good or evil” (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14). So, your detours away from following Jesus Christ do matter – a lot! Although Jesus Christ offers forgiveness from such distracting detours, He only forgives those who follow Him. Therefore, if your life ends while you are on one of Satan’s distracting detours (as it happens to many people), you will not be prepared to stand before Jesus Christ for the Judgment (2 Corinthians 5:10). For, on that Day, your life will be evaluated by the standard of God’s word (John 12:48; Revelation

20:11-15). Those who died following Him will be rewarded with eternal life in Heaven. Those who died pursuing something or someone else will be sentenced to eternal punishment in Hell.

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## Conclusion

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Jesus is the way to everything that truly matters! But, Satan is crafty and deceptive. He is trying to distract you with many earthly things. However, you do not have to be distracted by him. It is possible to stay focused on Jesus and refuse to take any of Satan’s distracting detours!

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## Study Questions

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Why does Satan want to distract you?

### 1. Why We Get Distracted

What are your two natures? How do these two natures fight against each other?

How can physical things often seem more appealing, immediate, and necessary?

How can spiritual things often get ignored or procrastinated?

### 2. Satan’s Distracting Attractions

How does Satan try to distract you through earthly success?

How does Satan try to distract you through earthly wealth?

How will remembering that earthly things won't last help you stay on course?

How does Satan try to distract you through earthly pleasures?

How will remembering that you will reap what you sow help you stay on course?

How does Satan try to distract you through earthly relationships?

How does Satan try to distract you through earthly knowledge?

How does Satan try to distract you through earthly prominence?

How does Satan try to distract you through false religion?

### **3. Staying On Course**

How will remembering that you are at war help you stay on course?

How will remembering that Jesus is the Way help you stay on course?