

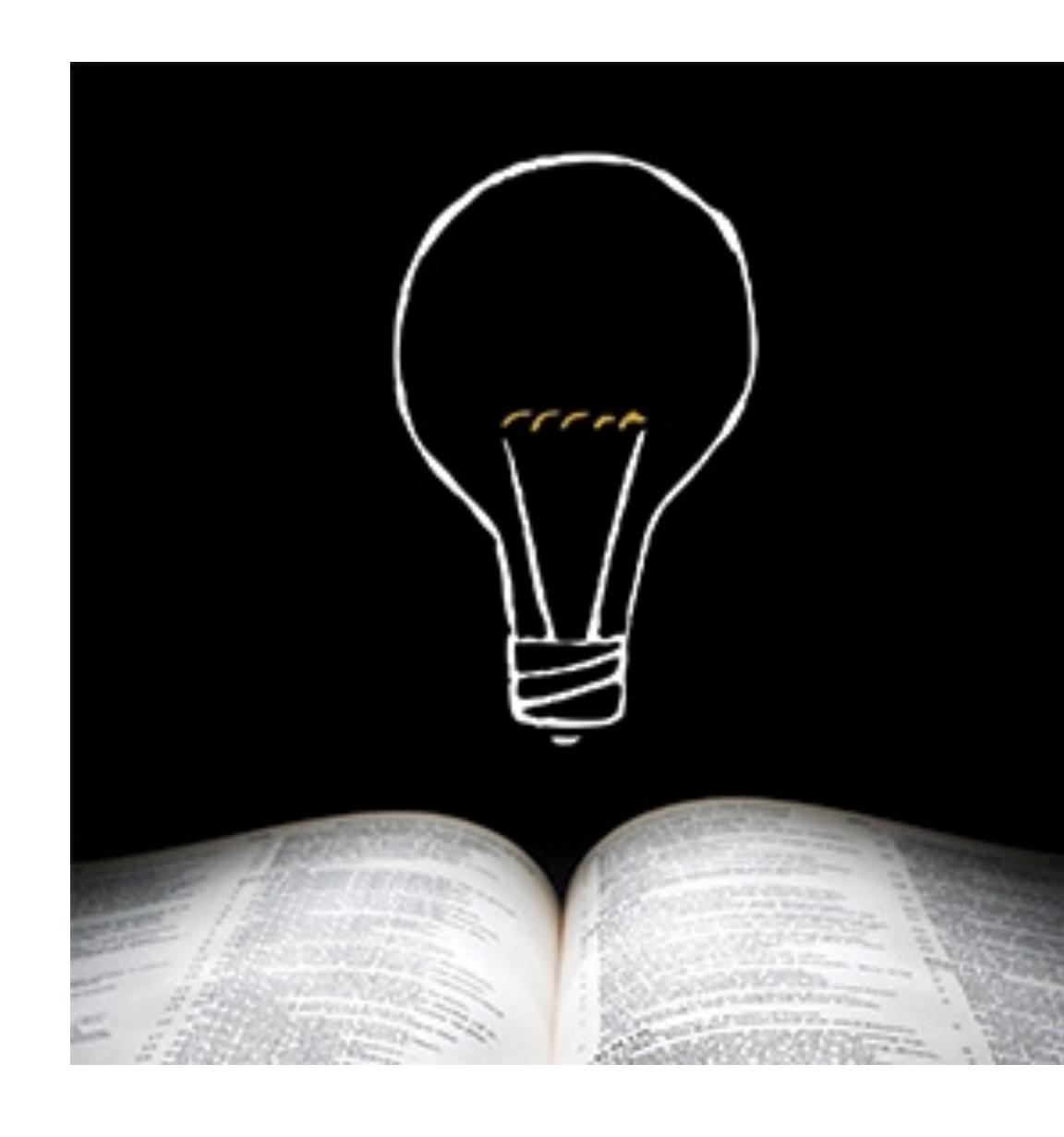
- Communing with Christ protects us from dangers seen and unseen. Psa. 121:8 The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.
- The temporal things that we may desire now could be detrimental to our future and our children's future. Following Christ protects us from things that are harmful for our future. Matt. 6:13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.
- When we follow after Christ, we can avoid actions that may lead to compromise and spiritual failures. 1Pet. 4:2 That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God.



- We focus on the present because our vision is relative. The eternal plan for our lives can only be seen by the One that created us. Rev. 1:8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.
- When we follow Jesus, we learn of him. His way contradicts the way of the world. Christ's plan guides us through the snares of this life. John 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.
- He is the lamp for our feet in dark places. Like a GPS, He can light our way and lead us to our right destination. Psa. 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.



- Our way will lead to our demise. We cannot live our lives based on societal views, other people's opinions, or our own flawed ideologies. *Prov.* 16:25 There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.
- The Word is the only light for our path. If we walk with Christ, then we will always walk in the light. Eph. 5:8 For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:
- A warning signal always comes before destruction. If we are truly in communion with Christ, we can avoid the many consequences of going the wrong way. Psa. 84:11 For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.





So many people today are making decisions that are harmful to their future. They quit good jobs, end marriages, neglect their children, buy things they cannot afford, and yoke up with people that are very bad for them. These decisions can hurt our progress in this life because our progress as believers should be solely based on what God expects from us. He expects our lives to reflect His way. He expects men to work and provide for their families. He expects marriages to last and children to have a fair chance in this life because of it. He expects us to save money and not to spend what we do not have. Most importantly, He expects us to allow Him to choose those that belong in our lives and those that do not!

All of these instructions come from communing with Christ. Christ is the Word and the Word can lead us in all of these areas. But when we take it upon ourselves to do things our way or the way of the world, we put ourselves in position to damage our future. Then when things get bad, oftentimes it feels too late to do anything about it. So, we just claim Christ but never truly commune with Him. No matter how bad things seem, we cannot give up on the One that created us. The plan that the Lord has for us must remain our primary focus. Only then can we live in peace and enjoy the blessings that He has for us all.

Prov. 19:21 There are many plans in a person's mind, but it is the counsel of the LORD which will stand.