**A MAP**

This week we are mindful of all the young people that will be completing a special leg of their life’s journey by reaching the benchmark of high school graduation. It is both an exciting and terrifying time in their life and the lives of their families. With so many choices before them, all amid a chaotic world, we hope and pray that their continued journey will be faithful, fruitful, and safe. As they consider all the possibilities and their hearts churn with excitement and anticipation, we bless them with the best map we can offer them.

**Psalm 119:105**

*Your word is a lamp to my feet*

*and a light to my path.*

In addition, the proverbial writer, from his wisdom, urges:

**Proverbs 3:5-6**

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart,*

*and do not lean on your own understanding.*

*In all your ways acknowledge him,*

*and he will make straight your paths.*

Brightly lit and straight paths sound good.

**Psalm 119:19, 35**

*I am a sojourner on the earth;*

*hide not your commandments from me!*

*Lead me in the path of your commandments,*

*for I delight in it.*

God’s Word and will have been made freely available to all humanity. It is a guide in all seasons of life and stands the test of time. However, it doesn’t just come naturally or easily. It takes work.

**Matthew 7:13-14**

*“Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.*

We all need that map. It is the thing we need most to discern where we go from here (enter your station of life). As our graduates move on to the next step of their lives, do them a favor. I challenge you to share with them a portion of God’s Word that has been especially helpful to you on your journey. Then, write it down for them and tell them how it has straightened and illuminated your path. What greater gift could you give them?

Shalom,

Ryan