

We need guidance at the corner. When you are going straight along you might say we don't need it. But we don't know where the corners are. We don't ^{know} ~~make~~ which decisions are of importance. When you finish here, where are you going next will seem to you a tremendously important decision. You want the Lord's will on it. But some decision as to what you do while you're here may be of even more importance than what you do after you leave. God knows where the important corners are. He knows the situations, and He will guide your steps despite your shortcomings and failures. In Jer. 18, we read how the Lord told Jer. to go down to the house of the potter. They made ^{their} their dishes in a different way than we do today. At least than most of us ever have a chance to see it done today. They made it on something like a lathe, something that turned. And they would put the pot on of clay and they would turn it with their foot and they would mould it and make it into a dish. And Jer. went there and saw the potter making one, and there was a little imperfections in the clay or something went wrong and it was not suitable for that purpose and then the potter simply changed his plan regarding it, changed the pattern. And used that material but he used it for a diff. purpose than that which had been originally contemplated. Now our shortcomings and our failures may make it impossible for God to use us in the great way that He would like to use us. But He will use us in a lesser way or in a different way if our eyes are upon Him. If we truly believe in Christ, He does not cast us aside when we fail. But He leads us in a diff. path than that which He might conceivably have led us had we not shown up that particular shortcoming or failure. We all have our shortcomings, we all have our failures. But we can have faith that the trumpet is blown by the Lord. That the Lord is there in the pillar of cloud and that he will lead us definitely if we keep our eyes on Him. Now we go on to small d.

d. True Christian guidance has several vital parts. Of these we'll mention the first.

(1) The most vital factor in true Christian guidance of all sounds very simple - It is No. 1 - Desire to do God's will no matter what it costs. Jesus Christ himself in Gethsemane said, Not my will but thine be done. He said I come to do the will of Him that sent me. The most important thing in guidance by far is our really determining and desiring to do what God wants us to do. It's really putting Him first. Not like the man who prayed, Lord, Show me which of these two women I should marry, but O Lord let it be Elisabeth.