



Pastor Ray Wrinkle

# Where Could I Go But To The Lord?

Ps 139:1-24

Story – Waitress at O’Charley’s serving us the display dessert.  
Which is worse, serving the display or eating the display?

Questions lead to answers that direct our steps  
Jesus asked questions constantly...questions make people think?  
What shall a man profit if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?  
Which one was his neighbor?  
Which did the will of his father?  
Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?  
What does the scripture say?

Story – Supervisor asking me about my whereabouts, I answered “where was I suppose to be?”  
“Answering a question with a question, sign of a true salesman.”

Question that reveal true heart of a Christian....

Which disturbs you the most?

1. A soul lost in Hell forever or.... a scratch on your new car?
2. Your missing the worship service or.... missing a day’s work?
3. A sermon 10 minutes too long or.... lunch ½ hr late?
4. A church not growing or.... your garden not growing?
5. Your Bible unopened or.... your email or newspaper unread?
6. The church work being neglected or.... housework neglected?
7. Missing a good bible study or.... your favorite TV program?
8. The millions you do not know Christ or.... millions of animals abandoned?
9. The cry of the multitude for bread or.... your desire to have dessert?
10. Your tithes decreasing or.... your income decreasing?
11. Your children missing Sunday School or.... missing public school?

## **Where Could I Go?**

**A. RUN AWAY FROM GOD**

Backslide

*Prov 14:14 The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways: and a good man shall be satisfied from himself.*  
*Hosea 4:16 For Israel slideth back as a backsliding heifer: now the LORD will feed them as a lamb in a large place.*

Story – Robert Robinson, writer song “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Story – Witnessing to a man at Dominos on Signal Mtn...he left his wife and child.  
Went back 3 days later and he disappeared...quit work and left town.

Where do people go when they are running from God?

Drugs, Alcohol, Women, Stealing, Fighting, Cursing, Isolation

Story – Man at Support group who lost 2 legs and 5 fingers

He was running from God

Boats, Cars, Houses, Music, Jobs

People, Places, Events, Computers

Addict needs a fix...They need something to make the emptiness go away

*Psa 139:7-10 Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?  
If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.*

## B. RUN STRAIGHT TO GOD

*John 6:66-68 From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away?  
Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.*

Peter knew if he left Jesus, he would make full circle until he returned.

He also knew that all the time he was away from God, it would be wasted time.

*Psa 139:23-24 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:  
And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.*

Story – Brother trying to get a place, “Quickest way between 2 points is a straight line”

Q) Has the path you are on now worked?

If NO.....why don't you go straight to the Lord?

God never leaves us, we leave him

Illus – Dingy tied to the dock, end up in the middle of the lake

Where did the dock go? Dock is in the same place, boat was the one to move.

Illus – Walking with God hand in hand, get enticed to leave him

When we come back, we find God in the exact place we left him

Greatest Question.....  
Where could I go but to the Lord?