

## Finding a GPS for Life

If I were to ask you your philosophy of life, could you tell me? Most of us don't think about our life philosophy – the operating set of beliefs that drives our worldview.

Our philosophy of life comes out of us in subtle ways: the attitude we wake up with in the morning, how we treat other people, how we approach a new situation, the things we spend our time, energy and money on.



It's worth taking a moment to examine our life philosophy because, in many ways, it creates our legacy. It's like a GPS for our life.

Most of you have had some experience with a GPS system in your automobile or, perhaps, your smart phone, and know how it works. You program your destination into your GPS and it gives you the directions you need to get where you want to go. These technological wonders are a great gift to many of us, especially those of us who are “directionally challenged.”


Of course, it is possible for a GPS to malfunction. I read recently of three women who escaped after the GPS system in their rented Mercedes SUV drove them into a lake. Talk about a living nightmare!

According to one of the women, the driver thought she was on a road, but instead the GPS directed them down a boat launch and into a shallow lake near Bellevue, Washington. It was dark, and the women were trying to find their way to a conference when, without warning, the SUV crashed into the water at a local state park.

One of the women immediately jumped to safety. The other two women tried to stay with the SUV as long as they could by standing on the side door frames, but they finally had to wade to safety when the vehicle kept drifting out farther into the lake. All three women made it out safely, but the SUV was completely under water. So even GPS systems, as wonderful as they are, can mislead you.



(more)

A close-up, slightly angled view of a silver smartphone. The screen displays a map application with a red location pin in the center. Below the map, there are navigation buttons labeled 'Navigation' and 'Menu', and the word 'mobile' is visible at the bottom of the screen. The background is a soft, out-of-focus map with yellow and blue tones.

Someone once quipped, “Somebody stole my GPS. My life now lacks direction.” Many people have lives that lack direction. That is why we need a dependable philosophy, a GPS for our lives. With a reliable philosophy of life, we can program our life with a set of beliefs, values and priorities that will guide us to our destination.

The best source of that philosophy, of course, is Jesus. He is the Word of God come down from heaven, says Scripture. He is God’s revelation of the way our lives should be lived. Jesus’ entire philosophy of life was based on love. Author John Mason wrote, “When you base your life on principle, 99 percent of your decisions are already made.”

He’s right, but let’s change that quote just a little bit. In light of Jesus’ teaching, let’s word it like this: “When you base your life on love, 99 percent of your decisions are already made.”

*Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him (John 14:23 ESV).*

– Beecher Hunter