**Some Forks in the Road** *(Matthew 7:13-14)*

1. Suffering or Pleasure?

* **Hebrews 11:24-26 (Moses)**
  + Moses reached that fork in the road. He saw a greater value in the suffering. Why? Because of the reward that follows 🡪
* **1 Peter 3:13-17 (Suffer for doing good)**
  + When we continue to do good despite the outcome, the world wonders why.
  + We must be able to give a defense, and explanation for our hope.
  + We do this because we will give account of our deeds (**4:5).**
  + We do this because all else is dissipation (**4:4).**
  + We do this because Christ did, and He was rewarded (**3:18).**
* **1 John 2:16-17 (Sin passes away, obedient child abides forever)**
  + The pleasures of sin are fleeting.

1. Humility or Pride?

* **Luke 14:7-11 (Take the lowly place)**
  + Pride is abhorred by Jesus and God.
* **Luke 18:9-14 (Pharisee tax collector)**
  + The humbled will be justified, not the prideful.
* **Matthew 5:3 (beatitude)**
  + The humble will get to heaven.
* **James 4:7-10 (humble yourself)**
  + God calls us to humility.

1. Serving or Ignoring/Not acting?

* **Matthew 20:28 (Christ came to serve)**
  + Christ came to serve by dying for us – **Romans 5:6-8 (What if he hadn’t? 🡪)**
* **James 2:14-17; 4:17; 1 John 3:18**
  + **We must be willing to take a step outside our comfort zone and serve!**

1. Spirit or Flesh?

* **Galatians 5:16-17 (Struggle between two)**
  + We cannot be involved in both flesh and spirit. It is impossible.
  + Notice scriptural logic (cf**. 1 John 1:5-6; 3:7-9**). (**Cant walk in sin and claim to be God’s child.)**
* **Galatians 6:7-8 (Reap what you sow)**
  + The ultimate decision between spirit and flesh is the decision between heaven or hell…🡪

1. Heaven or Hell?

* **Mark 16:16**
  + Saved or condemned?
* **Romans 2:6-11**
  + Eternal life or anguish?
* **Matthew 7:13-14**
  + Life or destruction?