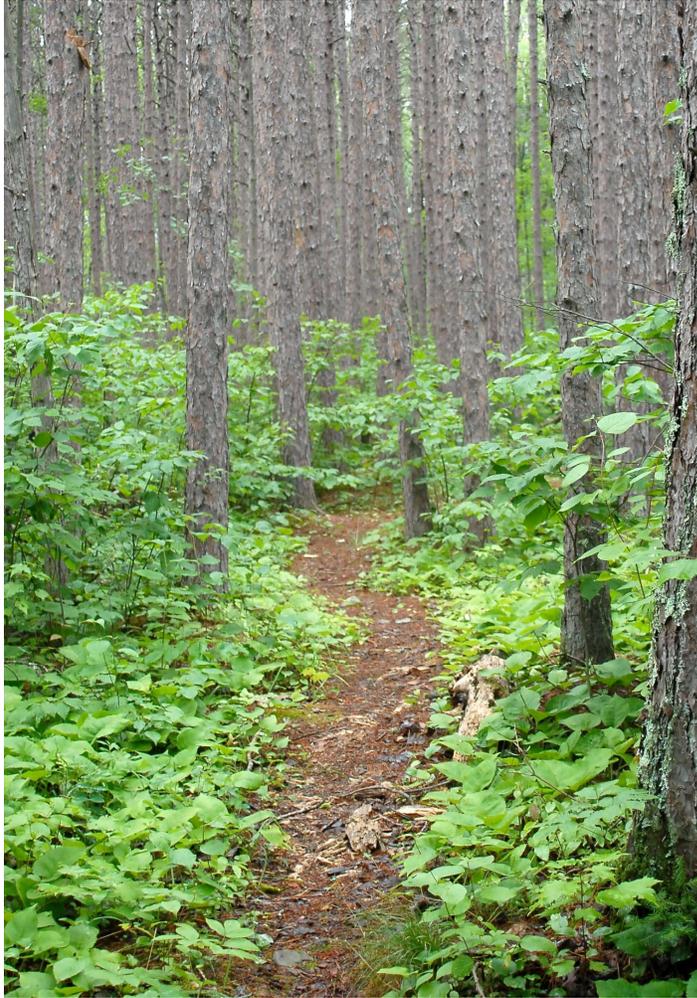


God's Hidden Pathways



*“Your road led through the sea, your pathway through
the mighty waters—
a pathway no one knew was there!”
Asaph | Psalm 77:19 (NLT)*

Hindsight's 2020, right? Could you have imagined where you are today? Was God involved? Think of all those prayers that were answered differently or, seemingly not at all. While in the midst we wonder, "God, are you really there?" Yet, in retrospect, we clearly see his hand on our lives... oh, he's definitely involved. Nevertheless, we project the future... without God!

You've heard those infamous financial industry words, "past performance does not guarantee future returns." Does such thinking prevail in God's kingdom? Could we even consider projecting God's involvement in our future?

"And I said, "This is my fate; the Most High has turned his hand against me." But then I recall all you have done, O Lord; I remember your wonderful deeds of long ago. They are constantly in my thoughts. I cannot stop thinking about your mighty works." Asaph (Psalm 77:10-12)

Our actions say "yes!" though we don't bring God into the picture until we're into trouble. Desperate, we recall God's wonderful deeds, miracles, his involvement in our own lives (his "past performance") as a way to encourage ourselves that he will repeat his performance in our future. Must we limit our use of projections to these reactionary situations?

Reflect: How might my behavior change if I project God's involvement in my future?

What if you pursued your future as an adventurer? Though Lewis and Clark had plans, they encountered unexpected "opportunities" that altered them. Traveling through uncharted territory, these experienced adventurers had to expect the unexpected, right? Do you think past successes emboldened their confidence? I imagine them saying, "Been in plenty of predicaments before, there's always a pathway out!"

Likewise, shouldn't your past experience with God embolden your confidence in him, make you more willing to lean on his promises knowing unseen pathways exist? Paralyzing fear will melt away in the light of faith supported by past experiences.

Consider: Past performance shows that God opens hidden pathways when I faithfully lean on his promises.

Lewis and Clark's plans changed but, steadfastly focused, their Mission prevailed. In fact, their Mission was the very thing that brought on the unexpected. Could they have learned of hidden pathways if they had stayed home? Abandoning their Mission, there would be no story to tell.

What if the Israelites had surrendered to the Egyptians when cornered at the Red Sea? The pathway beneath the waters would have remained hidden.

What if the priests leading Joshua and the Israelites across the Jordan had too little courage to step into the rushing water? The pathway across would have remained hidden.

Imagine: Hidden pathways opening as you steadfastly pursue your Mission.

The evidence is in, God's past performance abounds. It's time for we who faithfully lean on his promises and steadfastly pursue our Missions to proactively project his involvement in our futures. Trust him, he's always provided a pathway out.

"So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever." The Apostle Paul (2 Corinthians 4:18)

These are strange words from Paul... fix your gaze on what can't be seen? How? By focusing on his past performance, you'll know everything you need to confidently fix your gaze on...

God's Hidden Pathways

Go off the grid and ask these questions:

Coach's Questions

- When has God opened unseen pathways in my past?
 - As I project my future, how will I factor in my past experience of God?
 - How will I act more boldly because I project God's hidden pathways opening in my future?
-

Spirit Talk

Post this where you will see it regularly.

I confidently project God's past performance into my future

"But then I recall all you have done, O Lord; I remember your wonderful deeds of long ago. They are constantly in my thoughts." Asaph | Psalm 77:11-12



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