

A dramatic landscape photograph featuring a road that splits into two paths leading through a field of golden wheat. The sky is filled with large, dark, dramatic clouds, with a bright light source on the left side, possibly the sun, creating a strong contrast. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains under a dark sky.

There is a path before each person  
that seems right, but in the end it  
leads to death. Proverbs 14:12 (NLT)

**The Principle of the Path**  
Matthew 7:24 - 29

**Most personal problems  
cannot be FIXED**

**Most personal problems  
can be AVOIDED**

A landscape photograph featuring a paved path that splits into two directions, leading through a field of tall, golden-brown grass. The sky is filled with dramatic, dark clouds, with a bright light source on the left side, possibly the sun, creating a strong contrast and casting long shadows. The overall mood is contemplative and symbolic.

*path*

*way*

*steps*

*feet*

**The Principle of the Path**

**a principle is:**

**not a rule you follow**

**not something you choose to  
apply**

**not a law you can break**

**at work in the background**

we can *discover* principles

we can *experience* principles

we can *explain* principles

we *cannot invent them*



You can leverage a principle to **your benefit** or you can ignore it to **your demise.**



**If you change direction  
things will eventually  
change.**

24 “**Therefore** everyone who hears  
these words of mine and puts  
them into practice

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Matthew 7:24—29

24 “Therefore everyone who **hears**  
these words of mine and **puts**  
**them into practice**

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Matthew 7:24—29

<sup>22</sup> Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. <sup>23</sup> Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror <sup>24</sup> and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. <sup>25</sup> But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

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James 1:22—25

24 “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a **wise** man who built his house on the rock.

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Matthew 7:24—29

24 “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who **built** his house on the rock.

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Matthew 7:24—29

24 “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his **house** on the **rock**.

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Matthew 7:24—29

“These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is based on merely human rules they have been taught.

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Isaiah 29:13 (NIV)

<sup>13</sup> Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. <sup>14</sup> But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

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Matthew 7:13 - 14

25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it **did not fall**, because it had its foundation on the rock.

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Matthew 7:24—29

<sup>26</sup> But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on **sand**.

<sup>27</sup> The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.

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Matthew 7:24—29

<sup>26</sup> But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a **foolish** man who built his house on sand.

<sup>27</sup> The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.

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Matthew 7:24—29



When the storm passes through,  
the wicked are swept away, but  
the righteous are an everlasting  
foundation.

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Proverbs 10:25 (NET Bible)

28 When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, 29 because he taught as one who had **authority**, and not as their teachers of the law.

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Matthew 7:24—29

For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.

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Colossians 1:16

<sup>5</sup> Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; <sup>6</sup> in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

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Proverbs 3:5 & 6

<sup>7</sup> Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. <sup>8</sup> For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

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Galatians 6:7&8



# Three Words to Remember

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***Direction***

***Determines***

***Destination***

**The Principle of the Path**

