

*"Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established." Proverbs 4:26 KJV*

Ponder means to meditate or to pause to think at length. Do you carefully consider your steps when you walk? I know we may not walk looking down at the ground, but you always look ahead to where you're going and the path to it so that when you step, you've already mentally considered the placement of your feet. It has become an automatic exercise learned as a toddler and practiced as a child. *"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."* What becomes automatic habit and practice is not easily quit. Most of us go through daily life making decisions based on the memory and consequences of what we did yesterday, last week, last month, or last year. But we hardly ever contemplate, plan, or organize our daily activities before we rise from sleep and almost never before we lie down except to remind ourselves of some task that needs doing. Without God first in the day, going to work becomes a loathsome habit and we think little of how we will approach our day other than the routine that governs every workday. Habit becomes a taskmaster and planning becomes tiresome, so a day-off becomes a day of acting on impulse and whimsy. Satan loves to suggest "fun" things that seemingly bode no harm except they get us in the habit of yielding to his "fun" suggestions. Once there, we are easily manipulated away from Truth and God! We traverse the day reacting to circumstances rather than planning responses to adverse or even pleasant events. Daily routine replaces rendezvous with God and, holidays aside, we plan little; no time for God each day. *"Pray without ceasing"* is an invitation to quiet moments apart with the Sovereign of Eternity! *"And the evening and the morning were the first day."* According to Scripture, evening begins the day. Our evenings tend to impulse leisure and pleasure without a thought for preparation. Evening finds us napping off supper, watching TV, or attending some frivolity, when we should be preparing our hearts and minds for the rigors of the next day; spending quality time with God in prayer and meditation. TV is the devil's sunset. It keeps us indoors. *"The heavens declare the glory of God...night unto night showeth knowledge."* Would perhaps watching the day's end from sunset to star-studded night better equip us for tomorrow's evil?



Ponder the path your life will take,  
Choose righteous steps for Jesus' sake,  
He gave His Life that you might make,  
Your life secure to Heaven's gate! ~CGP

Think of the stress we would eliminate; beginning each day in the Holy of Holies; the innermost dwelling place of God the Holy Spirit! *"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?"* When did you last actually watch, not just look at, the sun slowly sinking in the western sky? Quietly contemplating it and communing with God? *"Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge."* Did you know that missing a sunset is missing class? There will be a test; tomorrow! Sunsets are one-of-a-kind. There are no two alike. You cannot relive sunsets on film, because there's no breeze nor smell. Once missed, it's forever gone!

*"This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." Psalms 118:24 KJV*