**Central Point: There are two ways to live life: (1) Directed or (2) Selected**

1. The Way of the LORD, **conforming to God’s character** (v. 1-3)
2. The Way of the Wicked (i.e., the Way of Self), **contrary to God’s character** (v. 4-5)
3. The Way of the LORD leads to **bliss**, the Way of the Wicked leads to **destruction** (v. 1, 6)
4. **First Things First**: The Importance of Psalm 1
   1. Types of Psalms (Praise, Lament, Thanksgiving, **Wisdom**)
   2. The Books of the Book of Psalms
      1. Book I: 1-41
      2. Book II: 42-72
      3. Book III: 73-89
      4. Book IV: 90-106
      5. Book V: 107-150
   3. Psalm 1, a Wisdom Psalm, is the **A-Z Purpose Statement** of the entire Book of Psalms
5. **The Way of the LORD** (v. 1-3)
   1. Ps 1:1 *Blissful is the one who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked / or stand in the way of sinners / or dwell in the assembly of mockers*
      1. Progression of Comfortability
      2. **Wicked** – those who walk the **wrong** way (i.e., “**My Way**”)
      3. Blessedness / Bliss: True Happiness comes only from the LORD
      4. Unpopularity
   2. Ps 1:2 *but rather in the law of the LORD (s)he delights / and on His law (s)he meditates day and night*
      1. **Law** (Instruction, Directions of the LORD)
      2. **Meditation** (Reading, Reciting, Reflecting, Memorizing, etc. to Conform One’s Life to God’s Word)
   3. Ps 1:3 *And they are like a tree (trans)planted by streams of water / which gives fruit in its season / and whose leaf does not wither / whatever (s)he/it does prospers* 
      1. Transplanted Tree, Shall Not Be Moved
      2. Biblical Prosperity: Accomplishing God’s Purpose
6. **The Way of the Wicked** (v. 4-5)
   1. Ps 1:4 *Not so the wicked / but rather, they are like chaff that the wind blows away*
   2. Ps 1:5 *Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment / nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous*
7. **Two Ways, Two Destinations** (v. 6)
   1. Ps 1:6a For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous
   2. Ps 1:6b but the way of the wicked will **perish**
8. **Two Ways in the New Testament**
   1. Jn 3:16f. *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not* ***perish*** *but have eternal* ***life***(NIV)
   2. Mt 7:13-14 *Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to* ***destruction****, and many enter through it. 14 But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to* ***life****, and only a few find it.*