

GPS Can't Get You There



Message: GPS can't get you into the kingdom of heaven.

Scripture: Matt. 7:21

Prop (optional): A cellphone with GPS

One day Al was sitting in his favorite chair reading the newspaper when the phone rang. It was his friend, Bob.

Bob said, "I just bought a new house and I'd like you to come and visit."

Al said, "Sure. What's the address?"

Bob gave him the address and then said, "Do you want directions?"

Al said, "No. I'll just use the GPS on my cellphone."

So Al got in the car and drove off down the street following the directions from the GPS. Whenever it said to turn right, he turned right. Whenever it said to turn left, he turned left. Whenever it said to go straight ahead, he went straight ahead. Finally, the GPS said he had arrived at his destination. And when Al looked up, there was Bob sitting on the front porch of his new house.

You know, a GPS is really handy and it usually it gets you right where you want to go. But there's one place a GPS can't get you – into the kingdom of heaven. To get into the kingdom of heaven you can't follow GPS directions: you have to follow God's directions.

Here's what Jesus said in the book of Matthew: "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father." (NIV) And what is the will of the Father? That we love God and love our neighbor. Jesus said those are the greatest commandments.

Sometimes a GPS brings you to the wrong place. But God's directions will always bring you to the right place.

Let's pray about that: Father in heaven, we thank you for the directions you give us in Your word, the Bible. Help us to remember to follow those directions right into Your kingdom. In Jesus' holy name we pray. Amen.