## The Path of Life

You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; in Your right hand there are pleasures forever. Psalm 16:11

The psalmist points us to the destination of the path of life as he gives us a glimpse of the life to come—fullness of joy, pleasures forever. But how can I discover that path? How can I be sure that I am following it?

A pastor has many opportunities to speak with those who struggle and doubt. I recall one young man who had lost his joyful assurance and was wondering what had happened. Was it only emotion after all? I said with confidence that he had not been reading the Bible and talking to God in prayer. He looked at me with surprise and said, "How did you know?" The spiritual diagnosis was not difficult.

The path of life is found in the Bible, the Word of God. The Spirit works through the Word as we read and meditate—not because we feel like it, but because God says so. "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life" (John 6:63). "Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105). It's that simple and that profound.

The mission of the Free Lutheran Bible College is not simply to prepare for a career but to prepare for the journey on the path of life, "to establish students in the eternal and inerrant Word of God for a life of faith in Jesus Christ and faith-ful service in His Kingdom." The ministry of faith formation begins in the home, of course, and continues through the local congregation. Our school is a partner with the home and congregation, seeking to continue to build on "the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the chief cornerstone" (Ephesians 2:20).

Please join in this vital ministry by entrusting your young men and women to us, as well as through your prayers and gifts. My relationship with the Bible School began over forty years ago, and it's hard for me to imagine any high school graduate who could not benefit from a year or two here.

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