

THE JOURNEY TO HEAVEN

Adapted from *Life Is Forever* by the Rt. Rev. Peter M. Buss

Have you ever looked at a path in the woods and wondered what was around the next corner, and where it led to, and wanted to walk down it? Think about what that is like.

When we die, we go to another world, called the spiritual world. This is where we go first, before we enter either heaven or hell where we will live to eternity. When a person first comes into the world of spirits, he will follow a road which will lead to a town or village or farmhouse where he will feel at home. That is his first road—maybe not a very long one, and it takes him to his first home in the spiritual world.

After the person has been there for some time though, he wants to move on. He is learning about heaven and has learned all he can in that place. So this person will find a road and walk along it. Maybe he will be with some of his new friends, or maybe he will walk alone. That road will take him to new friends, who are even nicer, and to places where he learns things about heaven that he didn't know. He will learn how to get rid of some of the bad habits he has had—like showing temper or using bad language. His new friends will help him to see that these things are not right.

At last the person is ready, so, again, he will see a road. In his heart he will know that he ought to follow it. He and the person he loves above all others, who will be his conjugal or married partner forever, will take that road and walk along it together. They will walk until they come to the place the Lord wants them to live in. There they will find a beautiful new home, that the Lord has made just for them.

Now I want you to think of something almost as wonderful as that. On earth we actually start to walk along that road to heaven! If we start to follow the Lord here on earth, and do it with a full heart, then our spirits are walking along a road in the spiritual world all the time that we are living in this world. Each time you learn something right and do it, we are walking along a road in the world of spirits, coming closer to heaven.

Think of your life as walking a road—a happy and wonderful road—that starts when you are born and takes you all the way to that home which the Lord has made especially for you. When you do what is wrong, you are walking the wrong way, and then you have to turn around, and say you are sorry to the Lord, and walk back toward Him. That's wasting time, isn't it—going over the same part of the road again. But the Lord is very patient with people who walk the wrong way, and He works very hard to turn them around. And each time you do what the Lord says, you are walking closer to your home in heaven.

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