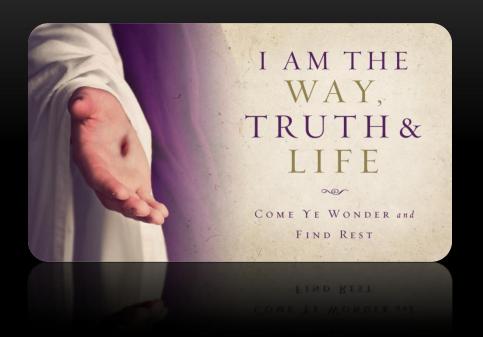
# Jesus said to him, "I am the Way"

John 14:6



# ... how can we know the way?

John 14:5



# Discerning the way...

- In religion
- 2. In prayers
- 3. In Orthodoxy
- 4. In worship

- 5. In the commandments
- In spiritual practices

### 1. In religion (1)

• The pursuit of religion is the one for the TRUTH:

"Everyone who is of the truth

hears My voice" John 18:37



# 1. In religion (2)

The wrong way is in prioritizing comfort and convenience above anything else in that pursuit (the story of the preacher on the military ship)



### 2. In prayers (1)

The way to pray is in the submission to the will of the Father: "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done." Luke 22:42



### 2. In prayers (2)

- The wrong way is to pray for "my will to be done".
- The story of St. Monica and her prayers for her son;

Augustine not to travel to Milan

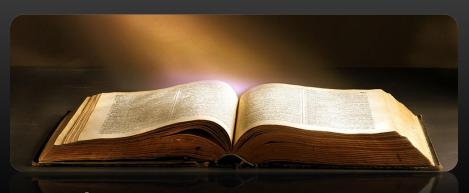


### 3. In Orthodoxy (1)

 The Orthodox way is maintained through balance between the liturgical worship and pastoral care and that of the work of grace combined with the human struggle and repentance



### 3. In Orthodoxy (2)



- It is in the way of honoring the Word of God as taught by the Church
- It is the way of discipleship and submission

### 3. In Orthodoxy (3)

 The wrong way in losing the balance, undermining the Church's authority, and in setting my understanding and preference as the points of reference



### 4. In worship (1)

• The way to the accepted worship is in offering mercy above anything else: "I desire mercy and not sacrifice" *Matthew* 9:13



The story of the student and the CD player

### 4. In worship (2)

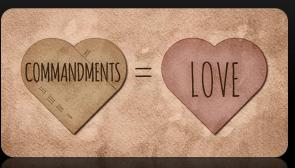
It is the one we do in spirit and in truth



 The wrong way is the practice of the rites void of all the aforementioned meanings

### 5. In the commandment (1)

 The ultimate goal for the commandment is love: "Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith" 1 Timothy 1:5



### 5. In the commandment (2)

- The wrong way is the enslavement to the letter at the expense of the spirit of the commandment.
- The example of the Good
  Samaritan vs. the priest and the
  Levite



### 6. In spiritual practices

 The measure of the success of these practices is in the repentance of the one who lives them



 The wrong way is in using them to numb the conscience