Date: 6/4/16

Title: Directed by the Lord

Theme: Trusting in the Lord with all your heart will bring true success in life.

Object: Two balloons. String, piece of a plastic straw, electrical tape

Text: Proverbs 3:5-6 (NKJV) Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

In another translation it says He will make your paths straight.

If you trust in the Lord with all your heart, He will lead you in the right way.

This is a wonderful promise from God to make your life successful.

Do you want to be successful in life? Then trust in the Lord with all your heart.

But you know what? Most people are not trusting God with all their heart.

Instead, they are leaning on their own understanding.

They don’t acknowledge God, they don’t think of God, they don’t pray to God; they depend on themselves.

They say to themselves, “O I think my life would be better if I had that job instead of this job, if I had that car instead of this car, if I lived in that house instead of this house, if I married that person instead of this person, if I went to that school instead of this school…”

So people choose to run after things that they think will make them happy.

And many times they make the wrong choices and go in the wrong direction.

So this balloon is the people who trust in themselves instead of trusting in God. [Blow it up]

They run after this; they run after that; they think money or fame or fortune or power will make them happy. They try drugs and alcohol to make them happy. They try music and dancing and movies and sports to make them happy. They try everything but Jesus.

And without Jesus, their life goes nowhere. They become a failure instead of a success. [Let balloon go]

Now this balloon represents those who trust in the Lord with all their hearts.

And when you trust in Jesus, He promises to direct your path and make it straight.

So this string is going to be the path that Jesus leads you along.

And we’re going to stretch it out straight because it is a straight path.

This balloon doesn’t just fly around the room like people who lean on their own understanding.

It goes somewhere.

Where do you think the path ends up that Jesus leads you along? Do you think it might end up in heaven?

Would your life be a success if you ended up in the New Jerusalem with Jesus and all the people that love Him? (Absolutely)

So we are going to blow this balloon up and see how God can direct our path from here to heaven. [blow it up, talk about being filled with the HS]

So now we have the string, which is the path from here to heaven.

And we’re going to pretend that this straw is Jesus. He keeps us on the string. He directs our path.

And this tape is our decision to stay connected to Jesus the whole way. [tape balloon to straw]

Now we’re going to release the power of the Holy Spirit. Are you ready to trust in the Lord with all your heart? [let go!]

Do you really want to succeed in life? Then let’s trust in Jesus with all our hearts!