



Union Baptist Church of Cincinnati  
405 West Seventh Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45203  
(513) 381-3858  
[www.union-baptist.net](http://www.union-baptist.net)  
Rev. Dr. Orlando Yates, Pastor

## LETTING THE LORD LEAD

***“APPLYING ALL DILIGENCE, IN YOUR FAITH SUPPLY MORAL EXCELLENCE, AND IN YOUR MORAL EXCELLENCE, KNOWLEDGE, AND IN YOUR KNOWLEDGE SELF-CONTROL, AND IN YOUR SELF-CONTROL, PERSERVERANCE, AND IN YOUR PERSEVERANCE, GODLINESS, AND IN YOUR GODLINESS, BROTHERLY KINDNESS, AND IN YOUR BROTHERLY KINDNESS, LOVE.” – 2 Peter 1:5-7***

**There is a strange statement Paul made while he was saying good-bye to a group of friends. Most of the men were wiping away tears, realizing they would never see Paul again. Looking around the aging apostle pointed south toward the Mediterranean Sea and voiced these words: “And now, in obedience to the Holy Spirit I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there” (Acts 20:22 GNT).**

***What an honest admission! “I am going....not knowing what will happen.”***

In a compact nutshell, that’s the Christian life, isn’t it? Going....yet now knowing. As followers of our Lord we believe He leads us in a certain direction or in pursuit of a precise goal. That leading is unmistakably clear. At least, *to us*. So-out of sheer obedience-we go. We pack our bags, we pull up stakes, we bid friends farewell, and we strike out, facing a future that is as uncertain as the leading is sure. How strange....yet how typical!

There isn’t a Christian reading my words who hasn’t walked that path and struggled with ways to convince others it is right. And endured the frowns and well-meaning counsel of those who try to point out why the idea is a fluke, even downright dumb.

**Who among our ranks hasn’t stepped out on faith, leaving a sure thing, looking down a long, dark tunnel with no end in sight? And yet filled with unimaginable excitement! Going....yet not knowing. Obeying....yet not understanding. Beginning a journey based on faith that is unpredictable, risky, untried, and appearing virtually insane – yet prompted by none other than the Lord Himself. That is following Christ. AMEN! AMEN! AMEN!**

**~ Dr. Charles R. Swindoll**

*“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matthew 28:18 – 20*

