

## **Final Destination**

*By: Amanda Winder*

Have you ever traveled on a vacation in a car and curiously watched out the window as you passed each vehicle? I have. When I was younger, I would stare out the car window into the passing cars. I would look at the body of the car and watch the driver inside to see what he or she was doing. Like the car I was in, each car we passed was in route to a destination. Each had begun his or her journey at point A and we would pass them in route of reaching point B. Of course I had no idea where each vehicle would be when it reached its final destination. I simply enjoyed imagining the possibilities. I believe the destination of life is similar. It seems to, at times, be a mystery. We are all journeying down the road of life in hopes of reaching our final destination. As we journey, several things are very critical: the vehicle, the driver, the engine, and the Garmin.

Think of your body as your car. Each car is fashioned differently. Some are expensive and high maintenance, like a Mercedes. Others are sensible and standard, like a Ford. Whether luxuriously crafted or reasonably designed, the car is the outer appearance. It is what we physically see with our eyes. Your vehicle is what literally gets you from place to place. It is simply a vessel, which we travel in. In the same way, each body has been created differently. Some are appealing and envied, while others are common and undesired, but each body is unique. Like a vehicle, each body contains a driver, the individuality that sets the outer apart from the inner.

Inside each vehicle we find a driver. The driver of the car is very vital because without the driver, the car couldn't get to its destination. The car would simply be sitting on the road motionless and uninspired. With a driver, the car is in operation. Suddenly the car has an identity other than Mercedes or Ford. The outer appearance no longer truly matters. It is now the driver's duty to journey. In the same way, each body would be nothing without an individual spirit. If my spirit weren't in my body, I would simply sit, without reason and purpose. Like a vehicle, my body would be a beautiful vessel, but it wouldn't contain depth. Without depth I would be lacking passion and purpose. But with passion and purpose, I need an inner power source.

Each vehicle is crafted with an inner power source. The engine of a vehicle causes it to move forward. We must have a vehicle and a driver, but without an engine, our vehicles will simply sit in the driveway, immovable. The engine is placed in the vehicle when it is manufactured, and when the driver starts the engine the vehicle comes alive. It is now prepared to take the driver to his or her destination. In comparison, the engine is like the brain and mind of a driver. Once the mind is stimulated, the brain is “turned on.” Starting the engine of our mind requires thinking and focusing on our destination. We need our mind, to power with our brain and spirit in order to get us to our destination. Our destination is clearly mapped out with the aid of specific directions.

With a vehicle, a driver and an engine we can make the journey, but, in today’s society, we have something that makes traveling simple: the Garmin. When I simply type my destination into a Garmin, it gives me a direct route. Not only does it give me a direct route, it speaks to me in a small, collected voice until I reach the end. The Garmin was designed to make traveling simple. In the same way, in route to our destiny, we have a Garmin inside our body. Because of Jesus, the Spirit of God is inside of us. If we choose to listen to His small, gentle voice, we will arrive at our destination without hesitation.

Without a doubt, journeying on a vacation is similar to the journey of life. Our body is the outer vessel that will get us from point A to point B. Inside our body we have a spirit which makes us unique, giving passion and purpose. Also inside, we find a mind that powers our brain to focus and think correctly. And, with the Spirit’s guide, we receive direct instructions on where to turn next. I believe each person desires to reach his or her destination. I think we all have an inner longing to fulfill a purpose in life. Discovering the purpose can make life fascinating and satisfying. Today, I challenge you to discover your purpose. Once you’ve discovered it, begin your journey. Allow your individuality to pair with your mind and brain so you may begin to focus. Then ask the Spirit of God to guide you as you journey in pursuit of your final destination.