

# DENAIR FRIENDS CHURCH

## Devotions with Matt

March 25, 2020

### WAY MAKER

Yesterday I talked about the song "Way Maker" by Michael W. Smith. The chorus lays out for us 4 possibilities for devotions as they point to God and His Character, Nature and Plan. I will take advantage of the 4 points in the chorus of the song for the next 4 days.

When I first became a Christian it was the early 90s and it was a time of transition from hymns to choruses. This was no small matter for the church (it actually was) but some people dug their feet in as change is always hard. The hymn hardliners didn't like the new choruses because they lacked the depth of the old hymns- plus they were awfully repetitive in the early days. There was some truth to the argument, but in so many churches the chorus crowd won out. Some churches tried to blend the music with both and some who only liked hymns sought out churches who stuck to them. I am not knocking hymns, in fact I really like them and looking back the early choruses did lack depth. But I will say they both touch my soul in worship as they all point to our God.

A song (or a sermon for that matter) is only as deep and touching as we allow it to be. When we think about the words and let them speak to our heart they can go as deep as we let them sink in. Sometimes that involves thinking about them and even going into a deeper biblical study of them and how they relate to God and our condition. That's what I am attempting to do with Smith's song.

The first one is the title of the song "Way Maker". What does it mean that God is a Way Maker? Well, that title is no insignificant thing. It is not a shallow combination of words. It is not something to overlook and pass by as we go on to the next song. Way Maker is the heart of the Gospel message to us. It speaks of His great love for us. It is all about God and His grace coming in to rescue us from our lost and broken condition- of which there is no other hope. It is just a song on the radio, but when we look deeper it can touch our souls.

Way Maker means that where there once was no way, Jesus made one. Where there was only lost-ness, brokenness and sin that lead to death, Jesus made a way to life. Where our relationship with God was broken, Jesus restored. Where there once was only eternal condemnation, Jesus paid the price and took our punishment and opened the way for eternal life. Where once we could only love in our broken ways, Jesus showed us a deeper love and allows us to experience it and live it out. Where hope, peace, joy were always fleeting and dependent on our circumstances, Jesus gives us true hope, peace and joy that nothing can ever take away. Where once we were on the outside looking in, Jesus opens His Kingdom to us where we live a new life in a new way with new eyes, new hearts and new purposes. Jesus became our Way Maker so that we could live now and eternally in the way we were once created. Apart from Him there is no way.

It is easy to enjoy a song on the radio or at church and skip on past the deeper meaning of it. But when we slow down, dig deep and look into our Bibles we see that there is a meaning that can remind us of a deeper Way that draw us closer to God. Will you slow down today, spend time in His Word and look up to the one who is The Way (Maker), The Truth and The Life?

*"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."* John 3:16

In The Way of Christ ~ Matt

