

How Do You Make Choices?

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I. Introduction.

- A. Many make choices without taking responsibility for them.
- B. Between stimulus and response, we have a choice.
- C. The battlefield lies in the will.
- D. Choice means the act of selection. (Deuteronomy 30:19-20; Isaiah 7:14-15; Psalm 119:30)

II. How we choose.

- A. Only Jesus has been proven right in everything.
- B. How we choose depends on who we trust, what our goals are and whom we choose to serve.

III. Steps to take in making wise choices.

- A. Get the facts. (Proverbs 23:23)
- B. Face the facts. (Proverbs 14:8)
- C. Plan ahead and think through. (Proverbs 22:3)
 - 1. Look at examples and see what happened to them.
 - 2. Ask what decisions those who have your best interest at heart would make.
 - 3. Give it the test of time. (Proverbs 11:14)
 - 4. Think of probable consequences.
 - 5. Ask if you are telling yourself the truth, if it feels right and what you would do if you prayed.
- D. Make a decision.
- E. Do it now.

IV. The most important decision you will make is receiving Jesus.

V. Ask yourself...

- A. Does the Bible say it is wrong? (John 14:21; 1 Samuel 15:22)
- B. Will it hurt my body? (1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Romans 12:1)
- C. Will it hurt my mind? (Philippians 2:5)

- D. Could it enslave me? (1 Corinthians 6:12)
- E. Is it a good stewardship. (1 Corinthians 4:2)
- F. Will it profit and edify others? (1 Corinthians 10:23, 32)
- G. Will it glorify God? (1 Corinthians 10:31)
- H. Will it help you serve? (1 Corinthians 9:19; 13)
- I. Is it worth imitating? (1 Corinthians 11:1; Philippians 4:9)
- J. Could it cause others to stumble? (1 Corinthians 8:9; Romans 14:21)
- K. Is it the best? (Philippians 1:9-10)

VI. God has chosen to love you, to place his thoughts toward you, to have your best interests at heart, to know you by name. (Romans 5:8; Psalm 139:16, 17-18; Jeremiah 29:11; John 10:3-4, 10; 1 Corinthians 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9)

VII. Receiving Jesus requires...

- A. Admitting your need. (Romans 3:23)
- B. Be willing to allow Christ to change you. (Luke 13:3, 5; Matthew 10)
- C. Believe that Christ died for your sins. (1 Corinthians 15:3; 1 Peter 2; Titus 2:14; John 6:37)
- D. Receive Jesus by believing that he is what he said was.
- E. The Holy Spirit will come in to lead us to the right choices. (Isaiah 30:21; Psalm 32:8)

Application questions:

1. What question do you think is most helpful for making a godly decision?

2. What is God's best for you where you are at in life?

3. What challenges do you need to overcome in finding God's will? Explain.
