

DECISION MAKING



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1/17/2024

Decision-a conclusion or resolution reached after consideration.

1. How would you define Decision making? Action or process of making decisions.

2. Do we always make good decisions? (why)

- Decisions are an act of the will, and they are influenced by the mind, emotions, or both.

3. The decision we make reflects what about us?

(Psalm 119:30) I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I have set my heart on your laws.

- The desires of our heart.

4. What are some of the questions you ask yourself **BEFORE** making a decision?

- Is this decision going to please myself?
- Is this decision or choice going to please the Lord?
- How is this decision going to impact my family?

5. What should be a main thought when you make decisions?

- Do they honor God

6. All decisions should begin where?

(1 Thessalonians 5:16–18) Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray continually, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

- Prayer

7. If we should pray in all situations, we should pray in times of decision making.

8. In your prayer, what should we be asking for?

(James 1:5) If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

- Wisdom

9. Is defining the issue important?

- Yes, wise decisions are informed decisions.
- It's also important to understand what options are available.
- Once the factors are known, options can be considered and evaluated.

10. Do you line up your decision making with biblical wisdom?

(Psalm 119:105) Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

- Some decisions become easy, if there's one clear choice, God's word.
- Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.
- When we follow the teachings of God's word, he guides our path and provides knowledge to make wise choices.

11. Do you seek Godly counsel before making critical decisions?

(Proverbs 15:22) Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.

- Consulting with a Pastor or a trusted voice can make the difference between a harmful decision and a helpful one.
- Remember God sees the whole picture-the past, present, and the future of our lives.

12. Do you trust God with your decisions?

(Proverbs 3:5–6) Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶ in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

- We must trust God for the outcome.

13. How do your mistakes impact your decision making?

- We must be willing to admit and adjust accordingly.

14. Why? It's not wise to continue down the wrong path **AFTER** you discovered it is wrong.

15. What do you do when your decision-making results in personal success?

(John 3:27) To this John replied, "A person can receive only what is given them from heaven.

- It's tempting to believe it is due to your own power, talent. It is God who blesses our efforts and give strength. A man can receive only what is given him from heaven.

10 keys to decision making.

- (1) Never make permanent decisions based on temporary circumstances. If you do, you'll regret it.
- (2) Don't let your emotions blind you to reason. Pray, weigh things carefully and base your decisions on mature judgment.
- (3) Surround yourself with sharp people and draw on their gifts, without being intimidated by their expertise.
- (4) Take the time to consider all options. What looks good to you today, may not look so good tomorrow.
- (5) You can't fight successfully on every front, so choose your battles carefully. Do you know some things are not worth fighting for?
- (6) Take time to get all the facts, not having all the facts can lead to crisis.
- (7) Consider the consequences of each action. Ask yourself, Am I ready to handle this right now?
- (8) Make sure your expectations don't exceed your potential and your resources. **BE REALISTIC.** If you can't count, don't apply for a job in the finance office. If you can't sing, don't try to record an album. Focus on what God gifted you to do. That's where you'll succeed.
- (9) Time is your most valuable resource. Don't waste it.
- (10) Allow yourself a chance to be wrong, a likelihood of betrayal, and a commitment to trust God, and he will bring you through it all.

Conclusion: Solid decision making begins by discerning the will of God. God delights in revealing his will to those who are eager to follow his word. Our attitude towards decision making should be that of Jesus Himself who said, not my will, but yours be done. **(Luke 22:42)**

