

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”
John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a

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GROWTH GUIDE How to make Great decisions teaching series	Handout: 11/03/19
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Guidelines For Great Decisions

We can find ourselves stuck in holding patterns because we can’t decide what to do. I am reminded of former British prime minister Margaret Thatcher’s comment about decision-making: “Standing in the middle of the road is very dangerous; you get knocked down by the traffic from both sides.”

Your Best Decisions Reflect Your Values

Think of every decision as a big decision. Oh, I don’t mean whether to have a hamburger or a hot dog at the ball park; but most decisions reflect, in one way or another, our unseen values. If I am a Christian, my every decision should be a Christian decision; what entertainment I’ll enjoy, how I’ll invest an extra hundred bucks, what I’ll do on my day off. These are all big decisions because they reflect my desire to glorify God in everything I do and say.

“Every time you make a choice” said C. S. Lewis, “you are turning the central part of you, the part that chooses, into something a little different than it was before. And taking your life as a whole, with all of your innumerable decisions, you are slowly turning the central thing either into a heavenly creature, or into a hellish creature by simply making the decisions that you make.”

Learn to consider every decision as an opportunity to honor God by keeping your unseen, biblical values as the underpinning for all life’s choices.

Your Best Decisions Are Birthed in an Atmosphere of Prayer

Big decisions are birthed in an atmosphere of prayer—and I don’t mean muttering a quick prayer just before a decision is made. I’m talking about living in an atmosphere of prayer so that our hearts are constantly pondering the choices that represent God’s will for our lives. Very often, God’s Holy Spirit uses prayer to bring conviction or new ideas.

Big-decision thinking recognizes God as a partner in the decision-making process, and prayer is our way of acknowledging our Heavenly Father in all our ways. Prayer is our way of asking God for His proffered wisdom, given liberally and willingly to those who ask for it. Prayer is the incubator of our best ideas and the source of our freshest creativity. Prayer is our lifeline to finding and fulfilling God’s perfect will in all we say and do.

Think back to Israel’s first king—King Saul. When Saul was faced with a crisis, he invariably made the wrong decision. Why? He was alert, intelligent, and charismatic, but he lacked internal character and intimacy with the Lord. He didn’t make His decisions in prayer or with a view toward God’s glory. His successor, King David, was just the opposite, earnestly seeking God and inquiring of the Lord before every decision.

Source: “5 Principles For Biblical Decision Making” by David Jeremiah

KEY VERSE

Proverbs 1:5 (NKJV)

*A wise man will hear and increase learning,
And a man of understanding will attain wise counsel*

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Proverbs 1:1-6; 2:1-2

Search The Bible

1. How do you usually make your decisions?
2. How often do you search the Bible for answers before you make a decision?
What do you do if the Bible doesn't specifically mention the situation you are seeking wisdom for?

Tuesday: Proverbs 2:6; 3:5-6; 16:3; 28:26a

Pray For Guidance

3. The article on the cover says "Big decisions are birthed in an atmosphere of prayer". How does prayer play a role in your decision making process?
4. The article also mentions "living in an atmosphere of prayer". Is prayer a major part of your life? If not, what steps can you take to have a more prayerful lifestyle?

Wednesday: Proverbs 13:16a; 18:15; 23:23

Get The Facts

5. Have you ever rushed into a decision without having all the facts? What did you learn from that decision?
6. What does the Scripture reading from today teach us about decision making?

Thursday: Proverbs 11:14; 15:22; 20:18; 24:6

Ask For Advice

7. What do today's Scripture readings tell us about the importance of getting counsel when making decisions?
8. Who do you have in your life who can provide wise counsel to you?
9. How do you tell the difference between good advice and bad advice?

Friday: Proverbs 14:26; 29:25; I Peter 5:6-7

Face Your Fears

10. Have you ever made the wrong decision because of fear? What did you learn from that experience?
11. How can your relationship with the Lord give you confidence to move forward in the midst of fear?
12. Is there a decision that you need to make this week? What will you do to make sure it is a wise decision?