

## **MAKING HARD CHOICES**

### **Practical Faith - Part 2**

#### **SEVEN STAGES PEOPLE GO THROUGH AS THEY REACT TO A PROBLEM OR CRISIS**

STAGE #1: **DENIAL**

STAGE #2: **DISMISSAL**

STAGE #3: **DEFIANCE**

STAGE #4: **DELAYED** acceptance

STAGE #5: **DISRUPTION**

STAGE #6: **DISTRESS** -

STAGE #7: **DETERMINATION**

#### **HOW DOES TRUSTING GOD MAKE TOUGH CHOICES EASIER?**

##### **1. When I trust God, He gives me His WISDOM!**

*"If any of you lack wisdom, you should pray and ask God, because he gives it generously to anyone who asks! He never resents us asking. God loves to help you and he'll give you the wisdom you need. Just ask!" James 1:5*

*"...You have not because you ask not." James 4:2b*

*"Those who become wise will be happy; wisdom is the key to a blessed life." Proverbs 3:18*

*"Getting wisdom is the most important thing you can get in life." Proverbs 4:7*

*"Wisdom is good for the soul. If you get wisdom, you'll have a bright and secure future." Proverbs 24:14*

##### **The ways I get the wisdom I need:**

##### **#1: Put God FIRST in every area of my life!**

*"Reverence for the Lord is the foundation of all true wisdom. The rewards of wisdom are given to anyone who listens and obeys God." Psalm 111:10*

*"Honoring God and being humble leads to wisdom and wisdom will bring honor to you." Proverbs 15:33*

##### **#2: APPLY God's word to every part of my life!**

*"Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them." John 13:17*

*"God's way is always perfect, and God's word is always true." 2 Samuel 22:31*

*"If you look intently into God's perfect Word that gives you freedom, and you continue to do this, not forgetting what you've learned, and then you put it into practice in your life, you will be blessed in everything you do!" James 1:25*

##### **#3: Get some GODLY PEOPLE in my life who live and apply God's wisdom in their own life!**

*"If you keep company with wise people, you'll become wise! But if you hang out with foolish people, you'll suffer from making bad choices." Proverbs 13:20*

##### **2. When I trust God, He frees me from SECOND GUESSING.**

*"Anyone with God's wisdom will know what makes good sense, but foolish people can never make up their minds." Proverbs 17:24*

*"6 When you ask God for wisdom, you must believe and expect God to answer because anyone who starts doubting is like a wave in the sea that is blown and tossed around by the ever-changing winds. 7 You won't get God's wisdom if you're double-minded, always wavering back and forth. 8 That only makes you unstable and insecure in everything you do." James 1:6-8*

##### **#3: When I trust God, He ACTS on my behalf.**

*"According to your faith it will be done to you!" Matthew 9:29*

##### **#4: When I trust God, He uses even my MISTAKES!**

*"We know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those of us who love Him and are called to live His purpose for us." Romans 8:28*