

THE COMMITMENT CHOICE

The Choices that Change Us: Part 3

July 2, 2017

Pastor Brian

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:3, NKJV)

REALITY CHOICE: I ADMIT I'M POWERLESS TO CONTROL MY TENDENCY TO DO THE WRONG THING AND MY LIFE IS UNMANAGEABLE.

“Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted.” (Matthew 5:4, NKJV)

HOPE CHOICE: EARNESTLY BELIEVE THAT GOD EXISTS; THAT I MATTER TO HIM, AND THAT HE HAS THE POWER TO HELP ME RECOVER.

“Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.” (Matthew 5:5, NKJV)

MEEK = STRENGTH UNDER CONTROL

HOW TO PLACE MY L.I.F.E. UNDER CHRIST'S CONTROL

LET GOD TAKE CARE OF MY PAST.

“We know very well that we are not set right with God by rule-keeping but only through personal faith in Jesus Christ. How do we know? We tried it—and we had the best system of rules the world has ever seen! Convinced that no human being can please God by self-improvement, we believed in Jesus as the Messiah so that we might be set right before God by trusting in the Messiah, not by trying to be good.” (Galatians 2:16, The Message)

“We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet God freely and graciously declares that we are righteous. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.” (Romans 3:22–24, NLT)

INVITE JESUS INTO MY PRESENT.

"If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved." (Romans 10:9–10, NLT)

JESUS: *"...Anyone who intends to come with me has to let me lead. You're not in the driver's seat; I am...Follow me and I'll show you how." (Matthew 16:24, The Message)*

FOLLOW GOD'S PRINCIPLES.

"So place yourselves under God's authority." (James 4:7a, GW)

"All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right." (2 Timothy 3:16, NLT)

EMBRACE GOD'S POWER DAILY.

"...anyone who tries to live by his own effort, independent of God, is doomed to failure..." (Galatians 3:10, The Message)

"What I say is this: let the Spirit direct your lives, and you will not satisfy the desires of the human nature." (Galatians 5:16, GNB)

"I will put my Spirit in you. I will enable you to live by my laws, and you will obey my rules." (Ezekiel 36:27, GW)

COMMITMENT CHOICE

CONSCIOUSLY CHOOSE TO COMMIT ALL <u>MY LIFE AND WILL</u> TO CHRIST'S CARE AND CONTROL.
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"Now we look inside, and what we see is that anyone united with the Messiah gets a fresh start, is created new. The old life is gone; a new life burgeons!" (2 Corinthians 5:17, The Message)

LAST THOUGHT

The key to a fresh start is a **NEW HEART!**