



DECISIONS *Brandon Rosko*

Decision - a conclusion or resolution reached after consideration. The action or process of deciding something or of resolving a question.

Crawford Lorrits, "When we are young we look like our parents, and when we get old we look like our decisions."

Joshua 24:15 "... But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Biblical Decision Making:

1. You must obey the moral will of God as it is revealed in Scripture. If Scripture prohibits the action in question, your decision is easy: don't do it. **1 Jn. 5:3; Rom. 14:2-6,22**
2. Good decision-making requires that you exercise biblical wisdom. **James 1:5; Prv. 2:1-11**
3. You need to consider your own desire. What is the wise thing to do? **Ps. 37:4; Phil. 2:13**

Decision Areas Fathers (in unity with their wife) must make:

1. Technology

% of kids 8 and under who have used a smart phone
38% - 4 yrs. ago
72% - 2 yrs. later

11 to 14 spend on average 73 minutes a day texting
8 to 18 spend on average 7 1/2 hours using some form of media in a given day

The new reality is that we have instant access to technology. 24 hrs. a day / 7 days a week. These are new challenges.

Key Questions to Ask:

- How much screen time are your kids allowed to have each day?
- When and how gets a Facebook / Instagram / Snapchat / etc. social media account?
- At what age can the kids have a smart phone?
- Who's going to monitor your kids text and instant messaging?

2. Friends

Prov. 13:20, **He who walks with wise men will be wise, But the companion of fools will be destroyed.**

Questions:

- How much time are your kids allowed to spend with their friends?
- With whom and how long are they allowed to stay out at night?
- Where do you stand in regard to sleepovers?
- Will your child be allowed to date?

3. Schools

Many families will have a choice. Where are you going to send your kids to school?

- Public / Private / Charter / Christian / Home

4. Family Size

How many kids will you have and when will you have them?

5. Family Time

Questions:

- To what degree are you willing to allow your kids to be active outside the home?
- Will you have a sit-down family meal most nights or even every night?
- How many sports will your kids play?
- What participation will you have?
- Will you as a dad play or participate in some adult league or activity?

6. Establishing a Vision / Mission statement for your family.

“A family mission statement is a combined unified expression from all family members of what your family is all about – what it is you really want to do and be – and the principles you choose to govern your family life.” – Stephen Covey

7. Discipline

Principle: Discipline should be fair, age-appropriate, consistent and restorative

Ephesians 6:4, **Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord**

Questions:

- Will we spank our kids? / Will we spank our kids in public or wait until later? /Who will do the spanking? / What other consequences are appropriate?
- How does our discipline change as the kids become older?
- Will we punish for immaturity or disobedience (or both)?

8. Equipping your kids to make wise decisions

Prov. 9:10, **The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.**

Ps. 119:105, **Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.**