

# 7

## Summer Decisions

**STAY – June 18, 2017**

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*In this series, 7 Summer Decisions, we will collectively be challenged to make a decision. This series is fundamentally based on the power of choices. Today, we are going to take it to the next level. Do you have what it takes to STAY the course God has you on?*

### **Overcoming a Quitting Spirit**

- We have all had times when we wanted to quit.
- God wants us to be a finisher not a quitter.
- The more God wants to use you, the more likely you will be tempted to quit.

*Hebrews 12:1-3, Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup>fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.<sup>3</sup> Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.*

#### **1. Remember the cloud of witnesses**

- Seek wisdom and guidance from friends
- Learn from their mistakes and success - Be willing to ask questions

#### **2. Throw off sin**

- Sin clouds your perspective
- Sin always makes you want to quit the path God has for you

### 3. Keep your eyes on Jesus

- Staying the path is connected to where you focus your eyes
- Keeping your eyes on Jesus enables you to STAY the course

### **Sustaining Power**

- If you think it's up to your own self-will and discipline, you won't be able to stay the course God has for you.

*John 16:7, It is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you.*

- Your sustaining power comes through your connection to the Holy Spirit

*Acts 1:8, But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere...*

### **Holy Spirit Power produces three things:**

#### 1. Deep convictions

- In today's world, we need true heart felt convictions.

*1 Thessalonians 1:5, Because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake*

#### 2. Boldness

- The Spirit produces in you a power that allows you to speak and listen with boldness.

*Acts 4:31, After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.*

#### 3. Discernment

- How do you know what voice to listen to in your head?

*John 16:13, But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth...*

### **Third Summer Decision**

*Today, I make the decision to STAY the course!*