



SOUL SHIFT DISCIPLESHIP CLASS

Created to Dream: The 6 Phases God Uses to Grow Your Faith

Lesson 2 – September 16, 2023 | Led by Betty Vincent

HOW TO MAKE WISE DECISIONS

"If any of you need wisdom, you should ask God, and it will be given to you." ~ James 1:5 (CEV)

"A person...unable to make up his mind and undecided in all he does, must not think he will receive anything from the Lord." ~ James 1:7-8 (GNT)

"It is in your moments of decision that your destiny is shaped." ~ Tony Robbins

God's Principles for Making Wise Decisions:

1. Pray for guidance.

Before you do anything else, get God's perspective on the issue.

"If any of you need wisdom, you should ask God, and it will be given to you." ~ James 1:5 (CEV)

"A man is foolish to trust himself! But those who use God's wisdom are safe." ~ Proverbs 28:26 (TLB)

Ask: What does God want?

2. Get the facts.

There is no contradiction between faith and fact. It's wise to find out all you can before you make a decision.

"Every prudent man acts out of knowledge." ~ Proverbs 13:16 (NCV)

"How stupid...to decide before knowing the facts!" ~ Proverbs 18:13 (TLB)

Ask: What do I need to know before I make this decision?

3. Ask for advice.

"The more advice you get, the more likely you are to win." ~ Proverbs 24:6 (GNT)

It is wise to learn from experience, but it is wiser to learn from the experience of others.

We'd rather appear wise than be wise.

“Get good advice and you will succeed.” ~ Proverbs 18:13 (GNT)

Ask: Who can I talk to?

4. Calculate the cost.

Every decision has a price tag.

“It is a trap for a man to dedicate something rashly and only later to consider his vows.” ~ Proverbs 20:25 (NIV)

Making a quick decision is not as important as making the right decision, and a right decision is an informed decision.

“Don’t begin until you count the cost. For who would begin construction of a building without first calculating the cost to see if there is enough money to finish it...Or what King would go to war against another king without first sitting down with his counselors to discuss whether his army of 10,000 could defeat the 20,000 soldiers marching against him?” ~ Luke 14:28,31 (NLT)

Ask: Is it worth it?

5. Prepare for problems.

“Stay committed to your decisions but stay flexible in your approach.” ~ Tony Robbins

“A sensible man watches for problems ahead and prepares to meet them. The simpleton never looks and suffers the consequences.” ~ Proverbs 27:12 (TLB)

You can’t ignore problems because they are not going to ignore you. Prepare for problems, but don’t try to solve all of them ahead of time.

Never confuse the decision-making phase with the problem-solving phase.

Ask: What could go wrong?

6. Face your fears.

Fear is at the root of all indecision.

Moses said... “They won’t do what I tell them to...I’m just not a good speaker.” ~ Exodus 4:1,10 (TLB)

Gideon replied... “I am the least in my family.” Judges 6:15 (NIV)

Abraham...said to himself, “Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old?” ~ Genesis 17:17 (NIV)

"If you wait for perfect conditions, you will never get anything done." ~ Ecclesiastes 11:4 (TLB)

"The goal shouldn't be to make the perfect decision every time but to make less bad decisions than everyone else." ~ Spencer Fraseur

Perfectionism paralyzes potential. The basic commitments of life must be made under imperfect conditions.

"If God is for us, who can be against us?" ~ Romans 8:31

Ask: What am I afraid of?

Do something great with your life for Jesus' sake. Don't live a life of mediocrity. Don't drift through life. Don't just exist. Make the decision that you're going to follow hard after Christ. That will determine your destiny not just on earth, but also for all eternity.

"If you have a decision to make, list down the pain points of doing it and the pleasures of doing it." ~ Romuald Andrade

"Great decision-making comes from the ability to create the time and space to think rationally and intelligently about the issue at hand." ~ Graham Allcot

This week's reflections:

1. What decision are you facing that requires a step of faith?
2. At what point in the decision-making process do you usually ask God for his direction?
3. What dream are you pursuing right now? What effects could it have for you and others?