

Deal With Sin

Uncommon Choices Week 6

Choosing

When it comes to making choices we first SURVEY the landscape (our closet), then we DELIBERATE the best way forward (4:30am or 5:00am?), then we DECIDE and take action (engage the day) and finally we LIVE our choices (consequences).

Choosing

So, how do we make choices like Joshua?

1. How do we choose whom we will serve?
2. How do we choose to be morally strong and courageous?
3. How do we choose follower-ship as the basis of leadership?
4. How do we choose to mark the God moments?
5. How do we choose whose side we are on?
6. How do we choose to be a person of audacious faith?

Joshua's Choice/Achan's Sin

Joshua chapters 7-8 tell of Israel's first defeat in the Promised Land because of sin.

V4 So approximately 3,000 warriors were sent, but they were soundly defeated.

V 9 When the Canaanites and all the other people living in the land hear about it, they will surround us and wipe our name off the face of the earth.

V11 Israel has sinned and broken my covenant!

Joshua's Choice/Achan's Sin

V19 Then Joshua said to Achan, "My son, give glory to the Lord, the God of Israel, by telling the truth. Make your confession and tell me what you have done. Don't hide it from me."

V25 And all the Israelites stoned Achan and his family and burned their bodies.

Joshua's Choice/Achan's Sin

V8:22 So the men of Ai were caught in the middle, with Israelite fighters on both sides. Israel attacked them, and not a single person survived or escaped.

V8:35 Every word of every command that Moses had ever given was read to the entire assembly of Israel, including the women and children and the foreigners who lived among them.

Our Choice With Sin

Sin has put us at war with God. The Bible's clear instruction is to put sin to death before it puts us to death.

In the day you eat, you will surely die (God)... In sin did my mother conceive me (David)... Your sins have separated you from your God (Isaiah)... The soul that sins will surely die (Ezekiel)... For the wages of sin is death (Paul)...

Wages Paid

John Piper said, “For the wages of sin is death..” He figuratively uses the word “wages” to imply that this is something you are getting because you deserve it – you have, as it were, worked for it (6:20–21). Paul opens the salary bag of a sinner, and all he finds in there is death. This death, we must emphasize, is not just physical death but also eternal death – the second death (Revelation 21:8). That is what you ask for when you live a life of sin!

Dealing Decisively with Sin

1. Choose Jesus Christ, receive Him! Receive His death for your sins, and become a child of God forever, filled with God's Spirit! (Jn 1:12)
2. Choose to battle against your own sin nature! Joshua had to battle to take the Promised Land!

The Spirit's Battle Plan

Galatians 6:7-8 “Don't be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. 8 Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit.”

The Spirit's Battle Plan

1. There is no such thing as a 'secret sin.' God sees it all. You cannot mock God's justice.
2. Every choice we make is a "seed" to God and it will bring a harvest in time.
3. Do not to yield to temptation and choose your sinful nature. The harvest is decay and death.
4. Do live to please the Spirit! The harvest will be LIFE!

Awareness of Sin

What should I do when I discover sin in my own life?

1. Confess (agree that something is so) your sin to God, and tell another believer.
2. Repent (change direction) and ask for forgiveness recognizing the payment Jesus made.
3. Give thanks to God for the cleansing and take new steps in a new direction. Walk away from sin.

Awareness of Sin

What should I do when I discover sin in another believer's life?
(Parents- this is a full-time job!)

1. Go to the person in private and gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path.
2. Recognize the payment Jesus made! Forgive! Speak it out loud and praise His name.
3. Set the example and offer to walk together away from sin and in fellowship, praising God together.