

When You've made Bad Choices

Hebrews 12:1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.

Big Idea: "God Always Gives You a SECOND CHANCE."

Jonah 1:1-5 The word of the LORD came to Jonah: "Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me." But Jonah ran away from the LORD ...

How to Recover from Bad Choices

1. Take RESPONSIBILITY for your bad choice.

— Jonah 1:12 — Proverbs 28:13

2. REPENT and turn away from the bad choice you made.

— Jonah 2:9 — Acts 3:19

3. EMBRACE God's Grace.

— Jonah 3:1 — Hebrews 4:16

✓ **Don't let bad choices define you.**

— Romans 8:1

✓ **Don't let bad choices disqualify you.**

— Romans 8:28

How to Safeguard Against Making Bad Choices

1. Use GOD'S WORD to guide you.

— Psalm 119:105

2. Ask the HOLY SPIRIT for wisdom.

— John 16:13

✓ **Are my choices God-honoring?**

✓ **How will this affect my spiritual health?**

✓ **How will this decision affect the people closest to me?**

3. Seek Godly COUNSEL.

— Proverbs 13:20

Jonah: When You've made Bad Choices

Discuss and Apply

Use the following questions to help you formulate age-appropriate questions to stimulate meaningful conversations. Please share your ideas and experiences with us at connect@manna.church.

1. Talk about a time when you made a bad decision and found yourself far from God. How did you recover from that bad decision?
2. Share how you experienced His faithfulness when you took responsibility for that bad choice and repented.
3. Discuss John Maxwell's quote: "Grace always runs downhill. It meets us at the bottom not the top."
4. Discuss a time when God's grace met you at a low point and you were able to overcome in his strength.
5. Talk about the practical steps you can take to safeguard against making bad decisions. How can you use God's Word to guide you? What does it mean to be led by the Holy Spirit?
6. Who in your life can you reach out to for godly counsel?

Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for your amazing grace. Thank you for defining my identity by your love for me rather than the mistakes I've made. Lord, I ask you to show me any area of my life where I need to take responsibility and repent for a bad decision. Please remove any lies that I have believed about myself as a result of my bad choices. I ask you today to help me receive your grace.

In Jesus' name, Amen

At Manna We Believe

Salvation consists of the remission of sins, the impartation of the righteousness of Jesus Christ, the gift of eternal life and the concomitant blessings thereof, which are a free gift of God, and received by faith alone apart from human works of merit. Even the ability to believe is a gift of God. This blessing in no way relieves men of their responsibility to repent and believe. After repentance towards God and faith towards the Lord Jesus Christ, the believer is to publicly proclaim his identity with Christ by immersion in water baptism, in the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.