

TAKE HOME SHEET



Series: Created to Dream
Message: Your Decisions
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: October 15, 2023

The “decision guide” will help with big and little decisions. It can help us avoid unnecessary problems, as well as helping us navigate out of them.

Think about a decision you are considering making. It could be regarding a relationship, work, a move, financial, or any area of your life -- big or small.

Now run your idea(s) through the decision guide we covered in the message. This is a great thing to do together with a friend or small group. Parents -- you can use this to help your kids learn, too, as you are both working on decisions.

As you work through the guide, write down your answers to refer back to and refine your direction.

We would like to hear what you discover along the way. You can let us know by sending an email to info@newhope.org with the subject “decisions”.

BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:

MSG – The Message
NLT – New Living Translation
TLB – The Living Bible

MESSAGE NOTES



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dream: a faith-inspired goal, purpose, or vision

And when you draw close to God, God will draw close to you.

James 4:8 (TLB)

How to Make Good, Wise Decisions

1. Go to God and ask for His help.

⁵ *If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking.*

⁶ *But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. ⁷ Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. ⁸ Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do.*

James 1:5–8 (NLT)

2. Find out what the Bible says.

¹⁶ *All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. ¹⁷ God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.*

2 Timothy 3:16–17 (NLT)

3. Ask for insight and advice from wise followers of Christ.

Refuse good advice and watch your plans fail; take good counsel and watch them succeed.

Proverbs 15:22 (MSG)

4. Be willing to make a painful choice if that is what is required to be faithful.

...if you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it.

1 Peter 3:14 (NLT)

So Here's Our List or Decision Guide

1. Go to God and ask for His help.

2. Find out what the Bible has to say.

3. Ask for insight and advice from wise followers of Christ.

4. Be willing to make a painful choice if that is what is required.

And the final item...

5. Trust God and do whatever you want!

⁵ *Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. ⁶ Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take. ⁷ Don't be impressed with your own wisdom. Instead, fear the LORD and turn away from evil.*

Proverbs 3:5–7 (NLT)

⁴ *Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you your heart's desires. ⁵ Commit everything you do to the Lord. Trust him, and he will help you.*

Psalms 37:4–5 (NLT)

If we are following the first four items in our checklist, we are in the perfect position to make decisions that will be the very best.

Sometimes God makes the best choice perfectly clear and other times He leaves it to our discernment.

He will do what is best for us so we grow in our faith and show others the surpassing value of knowing and following Jesus.