



WORD OF THE YEAR 2024

WISDOM



Our Decisions Determine Our Destiny Pt. 2
Dr. Jeremy McGarity

If you are... unable to make up your mind and undecided in all you do, you must not think you will receive anything from the Lord.

JAMES 1:7-8 (GN)

Six Steps to Making Wise Decisions

1 PRAY FOR WISDOM

A man is a fool to trust himself. But those who use God's wisdom are safe.

PROVERBS 28:26 (LB)

The peace that Christ gives is to guide you in the decisions you make...

COLOSSIANS 3:15 (GN)

***Ask** for God's GUIDANCE (Joshua 9)

2 GATHER FACTS

All who are prudent act with knowledge.

PROVERBS 13:16 (NIV)

What a shame—yes, how stupid!—to decide before knowing the facts!

PROVERBS 18:13 (LB)

The heart of the discerning acquires knowledge, for the ears of the wise seek it out.

PROVERBS 18:15 (NIV)

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

3 ASK FOR ADVICE

Get good advice and you will succeed...

PROVERBS 20:18 (GN)

...The more advice you get, the more likely you are to win.

PROVERBS 24:6 (GN)

***Ask:** Who do I **TRUST** to give me advice?

(2 Corinthians 6:14-18)

4 WHAT WILL THIS **C O S T**

But don't begin until you count the cost...

LUKE 14:28 (NLT)

Don't trap yourself by making a rash promise to God and only later counting the cost.

PROVERBS 20:25 (NLT)

***Ask:** Is It **W O R T H** It?

5 EXPECT THE BEST, PREPARE FOR THE WORST

A sensible man watches for problems ahead and prepares to meet them... The simpleton never looks and suffers the consequences.

PROVERBS 22:3 (LB)

***Ask:** What could go **WRONG**? What will **HAPPEN** if it does?

6 FAITH FORWARD

If you wait for perfect conditions, you'll never get anything done.

ECCLESIASTES 11:4 (LB)

If God is for us, who can be against us?

ROMANS 8:31 (NIV)

***Ask:** What am I **A F R A I D** of?

FOUR BASIC LIFE DECISIONS THAT WILL DETERMINE YOUR DESTINY

The decision to commit myself....

1. To Christ and a church family
2. To the habits necessary for spiritual growth
3. To using my God-given gifts and abilities in serving God and others
4. To telling others (my Oikos) about Christ: *An invite can change a life.*

(Ephesians. 2:19; Acts 17:26; Romans 12:4-5;

2 Peter 3:18; 1 Timothy 4:7; 1 Peter 4:10;

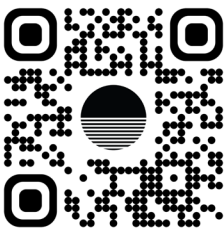
1 Corinthians 12:4-27; Matthew 28:19; Acts 1:8)

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SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

- 1 In Luke 14:28-33, Jesus talks about counting the cost before becoming His disciple. How does this principle apply to our everyday decision-making, and how can wisdom guide us in assessing the true cost of our choices?
- 2 Proverbs 16:9 says, "The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps." How can we balance our desire to plan for the future with the acknowledgment that God is ultimately in control? Share personal experiences where planning and trusting in God's guidance intersect.
- 3 Ecclesiastes 3:1 reminds us that there is a season for everything. Discuss the role of wisdom in discerning the right time for various actions and decisions in our lives. How can we cultivate a sensitivity to God's timing in our plans and endeavors?
- 4 In Matthew 7:24-27, Jesus compares the wise and foolish builders. How can we practically apply the wisdom we gain from God's Word in our daily lives? Discuss specific areas where applying Godly wisdom can lead to a firm foundation in our relationships, work, and personal growth.



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Upcoming Events

01.17 | MOPS Begins

01.20 | Men's Breakfast

01.28 | Dream Team Appreciation

02.03 | Galentines Women's Brunch

02.04 | Middle School Winter Camp Begins