

Choices – Part 3 Habits – Part 2

Choices – meaning: to choose – to pick, or to select

Synonyms:

- Call for
- Commit oneself
- Crave
- Decide on
- Desire
- Determine
- Fix on
- Make up one's mind
- Set aside
- Want

Definition of this word habits

- A habit is a routine of behavior that is repeated regularly and tends to occur subconsciously.
 - Synonyms for the word “habit”;
 - Pattern
 - Tendency
 - Practice
 - Routine
 - Custom

The choices we make today become our habits of tomorrow!

Jesus, as a man had habits

Early in His life, Jesus, made **conscience decision** that He would have certain habits that would draw Him closer to His Father (**Luke 4:16 (HCSB)**)

- You could say Jesus at some point said to Himself **“the choices I make today will become my habits of tomorrow, and these habits will either draw me closer to my Father or pull me away”**

Point 1 – Habits are created when a decisive decision is made and acted upon, over...

Romans 12:1 (AMP)

I APPEAL to you therefore, brethren, and beg of you in view of [all] the mercies of God, to make a **decisive dedication** of your bodies [presenting all your members and faculties,] as a

living sacrifice, holy (devoted, consecrated) and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship.

- **Decisive dedication** – Greek to make a stand (**decisive – firm / dedication – committing your way to something**)
 - If you don't make a decisive dedication in anything in life you will find that it will be very difficult to have success in those areas of life.
 - Not just spiritual but in every area of life!

Daniel 6:1-3 (AMP)

It seemed good to Darius [who became king after Belshazzar] to appoint over the kingdom 120 satraps who would be in charge throughout the kingdom, ² and over them three chief commissioners (of whom Daniel was one), that these satraps might be accountable to them, so that the king would have no loss [from disloyalty or mismanagement]. ³ Then this Daniel, because of the extraordinary spirit within him, began distinguishing himself among the commissioners and the satraps, and the king planned to appoint him over the entire realm.

What made Daniel so “special”?

- Did he have a different spirit than what we have today?
 - What set Daniel apart so much, even though he is a “Jewish” man, he is given such a responsibility (to be over a group of people that are trying to have control of the Jewish people)
 - Daniel set himself apart, not out of pride, but out a commitment, out of a decision, that he would not do anything that would defile himself...

Daniel 1:8 (NLT)

But Daniel was **determined** not to defile himself by eating the food and wine given to them by the king. He asked the chief of staff for permission not to eat these unacceptable foods.

- **Determine – synonym for choose** – this choice would become a habit to not defile himself

Point 2 – Little habits have big impacts

(little habits become big habits, big habits don't just start big they start small and grow)

**The little things that they did added up and added up and added up.
They didn't do what they did (WIN IT ALL) without doing the little things**

- **Greatness is achieved by being faithful to the little things**

When I searched this the first thing that showed up on my search results was

Luke 16:10 (AMP)

“He who is faithful in a **very little thing** is also faithful in much; and he who is dishonest in a very little thing is also dishonest in much.

- What is a little thing, is (just) a little thing. But to be faithful in a little thing is a great thing. St. Augustine’s De Doctrina Christiana, IV,35

Matthew 25:21 (AMP)

His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful *and* trustworthy over a little, I will put you in charge of many things; share in the joy of your master.’

Little things—who cares? God does.

- Great things are done by a series of small things brought together. Vincent Van Gogh
- Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies. Mother Teresa
- Great things are not done by impulse, but by a series of small things brought together. George Eliot
- Getting organized in the normal routines of life and finishing little projects you've started is an important first step toward realizing large goals. If you can't get a handle on the small things, how will you ever get it together to focus on the big things. Joyce Meyer

Point 3 – Big victories come from small habits

Deuteronomy 7:22 (NLT)

The Lord your God will drive those nations out ahead of you **little by little**. You will not clear them away all at once, otherwise the wild animals would multiply too quickly for you.

- David was faithful with the little things (sheep) and eventually defeated a giant. Big victories come from small habits.
 - Early on he learned who God was in his life thru worship and praise,
 - Lion and bear before the giant (no crowd like there would be with Goliath)

Public victories start with private habits

Everyone wants the David victories, Moses successes, Jesus type championship

But not everyone wants to do the little thing in private

Victories start in private with the little things

Read Daniel 6:1-10

Daniel 6:10 (AMP)

Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house, and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he got down upon his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, **as he had done previously.**

Daniel 6:10 (NLT)

But when Daniel learned that the law had been signed, he went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with its windows open toward Jerusalem. He prayed three times a day, **just as he had always done**, giving thanks to his God.

He had always praised God this way. – God’s Word Translation

as he was used to doing before. – Jubilee 2000

Listen

- Daniel did what he did because it was what he always did
- They say Daniel was between 83-87 when this happened
 - Let’s say early on in his life he choose to have a habit of praying
 - 13 years to 83 years
 - 83-13 = 70 years
 - 3 times at for 1 year = 1,095 in one year of “knelling and praying”
 - **76,650 of “knelling and praying/praising His God**

NOW THAT’S A HABIT

We want the big victories without the doing, practicing the little things.

Big habits come from small habits

The little things done in private will pay off

Do the things now, that you can control, and then when things happen that you can't control you will be able to be in control