

On Making Decisions

Joshua 9; Proverbs 3:5-6

The quality of our _____ determines the quality of our _____

I. HOW TO ARRIVE AT DECISIONS

A. Positive Principle: God's Word Provides a Foundation for Making Decisions

- 1) On 3 occasions God commanded Israel not to make any _____ with any tribe from Canaan
- 2) God's Word may not provide specifics, but it provides _____ for making every decision

B. Negative Examples: How NOT to Make Decisions or How to Make BAD Decisions

- 1) Place Great Confidence in Your _____
 - a) The Gibeonites wanted the Israelites to see, hear, feel, smell and then _____ their story
 - b) We live in a day when visual media has the power to appeal to our _____ and deceive us
- 2) Rely on _____
 - a) Joshua and the leaders asked the right _____ and were suspicious at the right times
 - b) Using our common sense to make a decision can end up in "leaning to our own _____"
- 3) Fail to Seek the _____ of the Lord
 - a) We fail to seek the counsel of the Lord when we fail to _____ about a decision
 - b) God will direct our decisions when we _____ His place in our lives
- 4) Surrender to the Influence of Your Innate _____
 - a) The Gibeonites were willing to do the _____ labor that was a big part of life in ancient times
 - b) The very first time a human being made a bad decision, _____ motivation was present

II. HOW TO LIVE WITH DECISIONS

Decision-making doesn't end when we make the decision; we must _____ with its consequences

A. We Must Refuse to _____ Our Word

- 1) Many would reason that the Gibeonites lied, so we are _____ from the treaty
- 2) Psalm 15:4: God's people are characterized as those who keep their _____ whatever the cost

B. We WILL Live with the _____ of Our Decisions

- 1) God forgives foolish decisions, but we must still live with the _____
- 2) Joshua had to live with a _____ nation; this was the first time they murmured under him
- 3) Israel lived with the consequences of this decision for _____
- 4) In order to keep this treaty, Israel immediately had to go to war with _____
- 5) God's people must resist being stampeded by their _____
- 6) Sometimes it is God's will that we _____ with the messes that we have made