



Applying Truth in Choices and Consequences | Application


 **READ: Acts 17:26**

This verse serves as evidence that God leaves nothing to chance. He has great purpose in every detail of our day. For this reason, as we increasingly become proactive in pursuing righteousness, we should include God in our decision-making process.

 **Romans 8:5-8; Galatians 5:16-17**

These verses reveal that as we face decisions throughout the day, we are going to choose one of two paths.


 **WRITE:** What are the two paths?

 **THOUGHT PROVOKING:** In order to become spiritually victorious and avoid the temptations of sin, we must develop a lifestyle that includes God in even the little things.

Think about it. Only God can distinguish for us:

- Good from godly.
- Impure from pure.
- Sin from righteousness.
- Those things that lead to defeat from those things which lead to victory.
- People who are detrimental to us from those who are beneficial.
- Personal thoughts and feelings from absolute truth.
- Our limited understanding from God's supernatural wisdom.

 **Jeremiah 6:16**

 **ACTION:** Ask the Holy Spirit to help you develop a habit of pausing momentarily to involve the Lord in the choices you make throughout your day. Because this discipline requires training, remain focused on its benefits rather than becoming frustrated with the initial process.

 What specific benefits will you choose to focus on?


Although you may not initially recognize a choice until you have already made it, as you consistently give Christ control over your decisions, you will begin to identify more and more occasions to involve Him in the process. Consequently, you will reap the benefits of relying more on Him.


TRUE | FALSE: A person can be physically stopped while their thoughts and feelings are in motion.

As you develop the habit of involving the Lord in your decision-making process, it is important to recognize the significance of standing or pausing.


To pause, or be in a momentary position of neutral, is to be without motion in any direction. Because it is difficult to gain God's input while we are entertaining our own thoughts, it's not enough to merely pause physically. We should also discipline ourselves to put our thoughts and emotions in neutral.

 **2 Samuel 11:1-5**


 How many opportunities did David have to place himself in a neutral position to consider God's best choice?


 What significance does this hold for your daily life?

 **Reread Jeremiah 6:16**

 Develop the habit of asking questions to help determine God's best in each situation.

- Does God's Word have anything to say about this choice?
- Would the results of this decision honor the Lord?
- Which choice represents God's best?
- Can I ask God to bless this decision?


 What difference would it make to consider these questions from a neutral position?

 **Psalms 32:8, 119:35-37; Isaiah 48:17**

As we face choices throughout each day, we will also face temptations.

TRUE | FALSE: Dealing with the consequences of poor choices is better than proactively choosing God's best. (Explain your answer.)


 What are some practical steps you will take to become increasingly proactive in making godly choices?


 **ACTION:** Read each Scripture below. Beside each passage, explain the temptations that were present that could have prevented David from including God in his decisions.

1 Samuel 23:1-4


1 Samuel 30:3-8


2 Samuel 5:17-19

 What temptations prevent you from inquiring of the Lord concerning your decisions?

 **REMEMBER:** At any point, in any situation, a person can pause to consider God's direction.

 **Jeremiah 6:16**

 **FISHING FOR MEN:** Write below each practical step you will use in training others to include God in their decision-making process. Doing so will help concrete each step to memory.

 **TO ENCOURAGE:** For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength. (1 Corinthians 1:25)