

"In the beginning
was the Word,
and the Word was
with God, and the
Word was God."
~John 1:1

The Lord's Flock
Growth
DIGEST
PASTORAL GROWTH SERIES



“ The Importance of Making Decision About The Will of God ”

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Word of God:

Luke 23:1-25(Jesus before Pilate; Jesus before Herod; The Sentence of Death)

We will study the decision of Pilate.

Principles / Steps to Know If Your Decision Is The Will of God:

We have to Ask Ourselves the following because everyday we made decisions:

➤ **Does it violate clear teachings of the bible? In 2nd Timothy 3:16-17**

“All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that one who belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work”.

➤ **Will our decision disobey the word of God? In Psalms 119** “ The word of God will help us discern.”

We have been trained to bring our bible to help us discern the source of the spirit.

We need to know if this really from God.

1 John 4: 1 “Beloved, do not trust every spirit but test the spirits to see whether they belong to God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.”

If we know that our decision is not in accordance to the will of God, then we should not do it.

➤ **Does this cause my brother to stumble in faith?**

If what you are doing is a bad testimony as a Christian. We should be careful of our actions.

We should live and act in accordance to the word of God. We should also practice self-control.

Will my action caused them to be hindered in their walk of life?

We should always protect ourselves because we are Christians and we carry the name of God.

Will my attitude cause them to hesitate in their walk? They may be turned off from our attitude.

➤ **Does it violate my body as the temple of the Holy Spirit**

In 1 Corinthians 6: 19 “Do you not know that your body is a temple of the holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?” **In Romans 12:2** “Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.” Our decision should not harm our body. We should honor our bodies and remain pure and holy. It is used to glorify God.

➤ **Does it violate the express will of our spiritual parents/ mentors? In Ephesians**

5: Authorities over us are to be obeyed.

- **Does it truly glorify God? What will Jesus say about it? What will Jesus do about it?**

Comparing these Principles to the decision of Pontius Pilate:

- 1. The decision to pass on a problem to someone else to handle is not handling a problem.**
Leaders are supposed to be both tough and tender. We are supposed to stand for the truth and correct someone who needs to be corrected. Don't pass on something that you can do. Passing a problem will not solve it just like Pilate who avoided making a decision. That is not handling a problem at all.
- 2. The problem that we refuse to deal with will come back to haunt us.**
It is a wrong decision if we don't follow our conviction. Our conscience should be good because we have the Holy Spirit but despite this we could still make our own decisions for we have a free will. Stand firm for what you know is right and true even when people would be mad. Do not be afraid of men who could kill you but rather be afraid of God who could kill both body and soul.
- 3. When you have a difficult decision to make do not discount the effects of outside pressure.**
You need to realize before hand that making right decisions could have unpleasant consequences such as rejection of peers, career derailment, and even public ridicule. The society has a difficulty on deciding on the truth but we have cast aside the only means of knowing the truth, God's word. The Holy Spirit will lead us.
- 4. Sometimes we know the right thing to do but we do the wrong thing because we are unwilling to pay the cost of doing the right thing.**
The price of following the Lord is very costly. Always attend our Corporate Worship.

In Hebrews 10:25: "We should not stay away from our assembly, as is the custom of some, but encourage one another, and this all the more as you see the day drawing near."

- 5. Personal responsibility cannot be avoided for the decisions we make.**
In Matthew 27:24: Pilate took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd, which symbolizes innocence in condemning Jesus. It is not as easy to avoid our personal responsibility. If Pilate is a man of real courage, he would have done what is right but he was a coward in this account.

Conclusion: Jesus is the truth and we should be brave enough to accept Him.

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