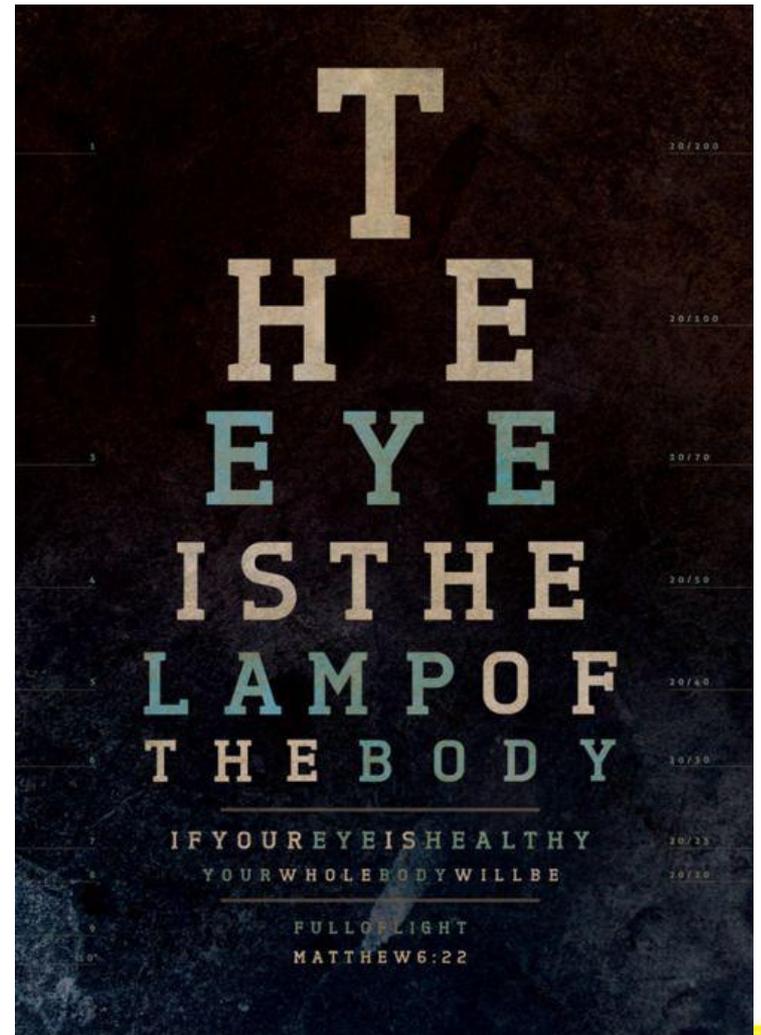


“The lamp of the
body is the eye.”
– Matthew 6:22



MAKING WISE CHOICES



ALL OF OUR CHOICES ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT

- Our poor choices affect both us and those around us
 - Lot
- Our good choices are a cause for blessings
 - Moses
 - **“By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin...”** (Heb. 11:24-25)

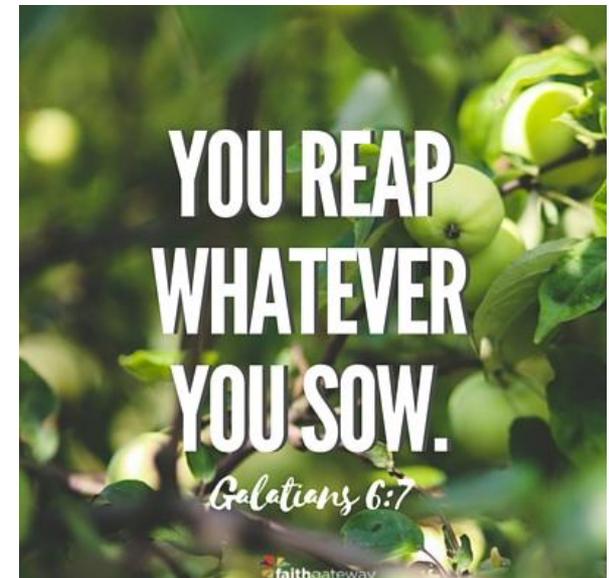


ADVICE FOR MAKING WISE CHOICES



1. ALL OF OUR CHOICES HAVE CONSEQUENCES

- “A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself; The simple pass on and are punished.” (Pro. 27:12)
- “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.” (Gal. 6:7-8)



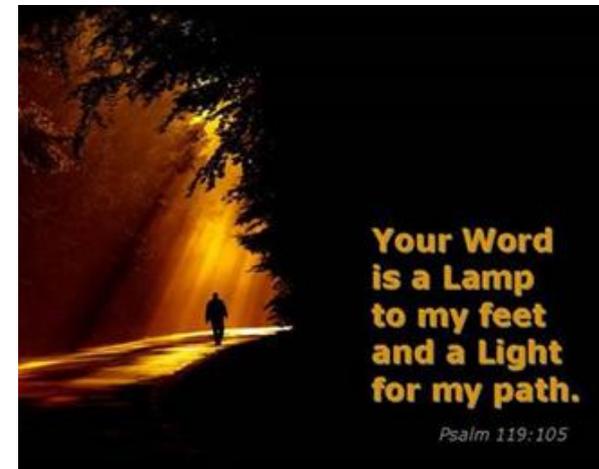
2. CONSIDER THEIR ETERNAL IMPLICATION

- One of Satan's greatest weapons is getting you to believe that your decisions carry no eternal implications.
- EX: Eve
 - **“Then the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” (Gen. 3:4-5)**
- Will my choice jeopardize my salvation?



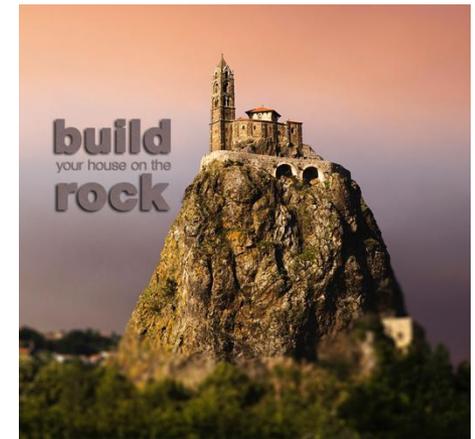
3. WHAT IS MY GUIDING LIGHT?

- **“The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!” (Matt. 6:22-23)**
- **“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” (Ps. 119:105)**



3. WHAT IS MY GUIDING LIGHT?

- Ex: House built on a rock
- **“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock...”** (Matt. 7:24)
- **“And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.”** (Matt. 7:28-29)



4. BEWARE OF MAKING SLAVES MASTERS

- **“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.” (Matt. 6:24)**



5. EXAMINE YOUR MOTIVES

- **“Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’” (Matt. 7:22-23)**
- Beware of making “good” choices for the wrong reasons

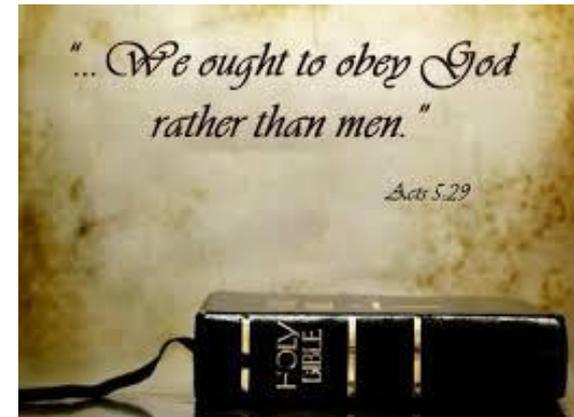
5. EXAMINE YOUR MOTIVES

- Ex: Judas Iscariot
- **“Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?” This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it. (Jn. 12:5-6)**



6. MEASURE YOUR CHOICES AGAINST THE AUTHORITIES

- **“We ought to obey God rather than men.”** (Acts 5:29)
- **“Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.”**
(Rom. 13:1-2)



7. TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR CHOICES

- **“Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.
(Jam. 1:13-14)**



CONCLUSION

- The example of St. Paul
 1. **All of our choices have consequences**
 2. **Consider their eternal implication**
 3. **What is my guiding light?**
 4. **Beware of making slaves masters**
 5. **Examine your motive**
 6. **Measure your choices against the authorities**
 7. **Take responsibility for your choices**