

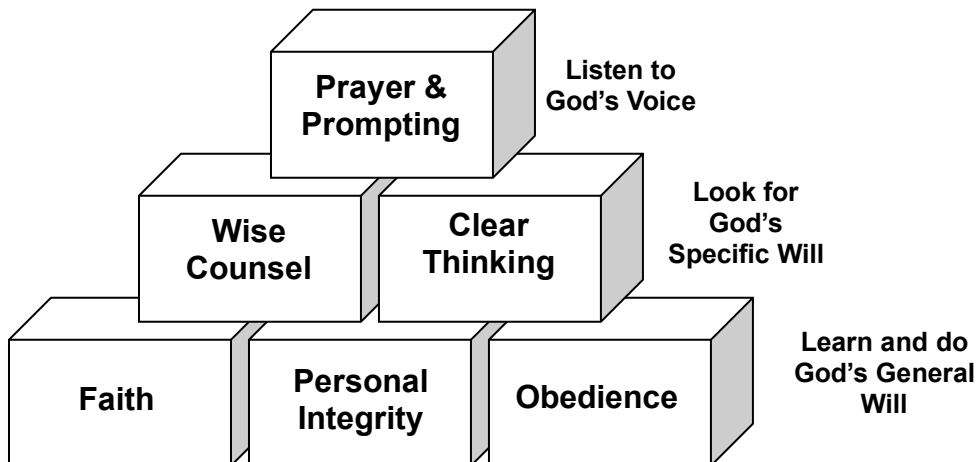
Decision Making
Doing Life God's Way – Part 6 of 11
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A blessed life is built on one wise decision after another.

Ephesians 5:15–18 (ESV)

¹⁵ Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,

The Building Blocks of God's Guidance



Learn and Do God's General Will

- Building Block # 1 - FAITH

Hebrews 11:6 (ESV)

⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV 1984)

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶ in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

- Building Block #2 - OBEDIENCE

Psalm 119:105 (ESV)

¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

Psalm 119:168 (ESV)

¹⁶⁸ I keep your precepts and testimonies,
for all my ways are before you.

- Building Block #3 - PERSONAL INTEGRITY marked by...
 - FAITHFULNESS (Proverbs 13:15)
 - DILIGENCE (Proverbs 15:19; 21:5; 28:19)
 - COMMITMENT (Matthew 5:37)

Look for God's Specific Will

- Building Block #4 - CLEAR THINKING (Proverbs 21:5; 18:13; 19:2)

Proverbs 14:8,15 (ESV)

⁸ The wisdom of the prudent is to discern his way,
but the folly of fools is deceiving.

¹⁵ The simple believes everything,
but the prudent gives thought to his steps.

- Building Block #5 - WISE COUNSEL

Proverbs 12:15 (ESV)

The way of a fool is right in his own eyes,
but a wise man listens to advice.

- Seek the Counsel of...
 - The Wise (Proverbs 15:12; Proverbs 13:20)
 - The Teachable (Proverbs 10:17)
 - True Friends (Proverbs 27: 6, 9)
 - Parents (Proverbs 6:20-23)

Listening to God's Voice

- Building Block #6 - PRAYER & PROMPTINGS
 - Prayer guidance for decision making...
 - Ask for wisdom for the situation you are facing (James 1:5)
 - Be honest with God about what you want in the decision. (Psalm 62:8; 60:1, 12)
 - Yield to God's will (Matthew 6:10)
 - Recognizing promptings/leadings from God. (John 10:4-5)
 - Consistent with God's Word
 - Consistent with who God made you to be
 - Usually characterized by servanthood, sacrifice and faith
 - More like a gentle tug than a back & forth pull

Area	God's Way	Key Scripture
Definition of Success	Faithful in assignments God gives	Proverbs 28:20, Matthew 25:23
Path of Success	Wisdom – Doing what is right, just and prudent	Matthew 7:13-14, Proverbs 8:12,20
Attitudes	Take God's preferred angle of approach: Fear of the Lord, Trust in the Lord, Humility, Teachability, Patience	Proverbs 28:14, 22:4, 16:20, 32, Jeremiah 17:7
Authority	Use your position to serve God, leaders and followers	Leading: Matthew 20:26-27 Following: Romans 13:1
Relationships	Act from sacrificial love	Luke 6:31, Ephesians 5:1-2
Decision Making	Seek God's priorities in line with God's ways	Ephesians 5:15-18

My Next Step today is to...

- ☐ Learn and do God's general will by _____.
- ☐ Seek wise counsel on _____ (Decision) this week.
- ☐ Watch or listen to the Decision-Making Essentials Message Series to learn more about making wise decisions.