

What to Do When You Don't Know What to Do
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Re:Group Training 2018 - Breakout

Input: What are some common, or uncommon situations where you, people in your community group, or others, don't know what to do?

Two Approaches to life, the Bible, and decisions::

- Anthropocentric - man-centered
- Theocentric - God-centered

Two criteria for receiving God's guidance (Psalm 25:8-9):

- Are you a sinner? (v.8)
- Are you humble? (v.9)

Two extremes to avoid: Being:

- Impulsive = No process, very little thought, people get hurt
- Indecisive = No action, too much thought, people drift

4 Principles to Help You Know What to Do When You Don't Know What to Do - Matthew 14:22-36

1. Recognize Jesus in your situation
 - Hebrews 1b-3
2. Trust & Obey His words over your circumstances
 - I John 2:3-4
 - Tension facilitates gospel transformation
3. Cry out to Him for help/direction
 - Psalm 50:14
 - Psalm 119 - "Teach me"
4. Worship Him as Creator and Savior
 - Colossians 1

God's will:

- Sovereign - It cannot be broken. It always comes to pass. (Deuteronomy.29:29; Proverbs 16:1-4)

- Directive - What God commands us to do. We can disobey this or fail to do it. (Ephesians 5:17; I Thessalonians 4:3-8)

God's Glory

- "The heavens declare the glory of God..." - Psalm 19:1-2
- God will not share His glory - Isaiah 42:8
- "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth" - John 1:14
- Do all to the glory of God - I Corinthians 10:31

10 Biblical Principles to Making Wise Choices - Handout

Conclusion:

- Life's "I don't know what to do" moments and situations are designed by God to help you pursue His will and glory so He can guide and transform your life and story.
- Psalm 32:8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

Action-step/Application/Homework:

- 1. Select an "I don't know what to do" scenario in your life**
 - Run it through the principles in Matthew 14 and write down what you learn.
 - Run it through the Making wise choices - 10 Principles and write down what you learn.
 - Outline your options.
 - Determine your course of action and, for God's glory, follow it.
- 2. Pray and look for someone else to help walk through this process**

Additional resources:

- Adams, Jay. The Christian's Guide to Guidance. Timeless Texts
- Bridges, Jerry. You Can Trust God. Navpress
- Piper, John. "What Is the Will of God and How Do We Know It?" Desiring God website. August 22, 2014.
- Palmist, David. Psalm 119
- Scott, Stuart. Biblical Manhood. (Chapter on Decision Making) Focus Publishing.
- Tozer, A.W. Knowledge of the Holy.
- Watermark. "10 Principles for Making Wise Decisions" <http://www.watermark.org/blog/decision-making-principles> September 18, 2013 (Click on "Download PDF")