

## **CGMF Study Series**

### **Lesson 1**

#### **Choices, Choices, Choices.**

#### **Study Notes**

**(Source Material: The book "How you make the call: Choices That Make Or Break Us. ", by Ralph Carter)**

**The apparent world we live in gives us so many choices in our life's journey. Those choices are the ones that define who we are, and what we are to become. How we make those choices, and then go on to embrace our life decisions, will either make us or break us during our time on this earth.**

**In fact, here is a summary statement about life that I believe you might find helpful:**

**LIFE IS A SERIES OF CHOICES. GOOD CHOICES RESULT IN A GOOD LIFE.**

**Don't let the simplicity of the statement throw you off. Stop and**

**consider it for a moment. Life is all about the choices we make. Make good ones and you do yourself a huge favor. Make crummy ones and, well, you've got problems. Here's another summary statement, written from a negative perspective but equally true.**

## **BAD CHOICES RESULT IN A LIFE OF MORE THAN YOUR FAIR SHARE OF BAD DAYS.**

**Life typically won't be blissful if we occasionally make a good, even great, decision. But please understand that one really bad decision can come pretty close to ruining much of your life. So making good decisions is of utmost importance if you want to live a rewarding, exciting, enjoyable life. And, as important as making good decisions is, avoiding bad decisions is just, if not more important, than making good ones.**

**The scriptures are replete with characters who had to make difficult decisions. Here are just a few:**

**1. David had to choose between three punishments.**

**1 Ch 21:10**

**Go and tell David, This is what the Lord says: I'm offering you three punishments. Choose one of them, and that is what I will do to you.**

**2. Jesus had a choice, and relinquished to the Father's will.**

**Lk 22:42**

**He said, "Father, if it's your will, take this cup of suffering away from me. However, not my will but your will must be done."**

**3. God chose you.**

**Col 3:12**

**Therefore, as God's choice, holy and loved, put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.**

**Finally, in the Book of Sirach, a book I quite like in the Apocryphal writings it says, " He created humanity at the beginning, and he left them to the power of their choices. " (Sirach 15:14)**

**How you approach your choices in life are critical, but they should not be contemplated upon in fear or trepidation. Instead, they should be considered part of our development and character. Allowing us the opportunity to learn to make proper Christ-like choices in our life journey.**

**QUESTIONS TO TALK ABOUT**

**1. Do you ever tire of making choices?**

**2. Which is harder for you to decide: where to have lunch, what to eat when you get there, or what to wear in the morning?**

**3. If you could eliminate one decision you have to make in the next thirty days, what would it be?**

**4. Why do you think making decisions is so hard at times?**

**5. In your opinion, what is the most important factor in making good decisions?**