

# FAITHFUL CHOICES

James 1:5-8 & 22-25 • April 16, 2023

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## INTRODUCTION:

A. How do we face difficult choices...especially in a crisis?

B. **Our choices about our choices:**

- Denial - "Whatever you want to do...I don't really care."
- Dismissal - "It's no big deal...nothings riding on this."
- Delay - "Nothing needs to be decided today."
- Defiance - "Nobody is going to make me do anything I don't want to do."
- Distress - "I just don't know what to do." (So we worry instead).
- Determination - "Faithful belief that God has a grace-filled direction."

## I. THE KEY IS MAKING WISE, FAITHFUL DECISIONS

A. When we **trust** God, He gives us His wisdom

***If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and He will give it to you.  
He will not rebuke you for asking.***

James 1:5

***Getting wisdom is the most important thing you can do!***

Proverbs 4:7

***Those who become wise are happy; wisdom will give them a blessed life.***

Proverbs 3:18

***...wisdom is good for the soul. Get wisdom and you have a bright future.***

Proverbs 24:14

C. **Biblical** wisdom is "a gift from God which imparts a quality of mind, heart and soul which enables a faithful person to live well, succeed and council success."

***But the wisdom from above is first of all pure.***

James 3:17

## II. GETTING THE WISDOM WE NEED

A. We get it when we put God **first** in our life.

***Reverence for the Lord is the foundation of all true wisdom. The rewards  
of wisdom are given to anyone who listens and obeys God.***

Psalms 111:10

- "Captain, yes Captain!"

***Honoring God and being humble leads to wisdom and wisdom will bring honor  
to you.***

Proverbs 15:33

B. When we **practice** God's Word in our life.

***But don't just listen to God's Word...But if you look carefully (intently) into the  
perfect law (Jewish term for the Bible) that sets you free, and if you do what it  
says...then God will bless you for doing it.***

James 1:22-25

C. When we get some other godly **people** in our life.

***If you keep company with wise people, you'll become wise! But if you  
hang out with foolish people, you'll suffer from making bad choices.***

Proverbs 13:20

D. These will free us from second-guessing God.

***But when you ask Him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind.***

**James 1:6**

**CONCLUSION:**