

“There is no denying that choice improves the quality of our lives. It enables us to control our destinies and to come close to getting exactly what we want out of any situation. Choice is essential to autonomy, which is absolutely fundamental to well-being. Healthy people want and need to direct their own lives.”

“On the other hand, the fact that *some* choice is good doesn't necessarily mean that *more* choice is better. As I will demonstrate, there is a cost to having an overload of choice. As a culture, we are enamored of freedom, self-determination, and variety, and we are reluctant to give up any of our options.”

“But clinging tenaciously to all the choices available to us contributes to bad decisions, to anxiety, stress, and dissatisfaction—even to clinical depression.

—BARRY SCHWARTZ

“Nothing is more difficult, and therefore more precious, than being able to decide.”

—NAPOLEON BONAPARTE

“Countless questions about a decision's immediate and ultimate consequences can be avoided by testing each alternative this way: does it fit my ethical framework?”

—ROBERT GILBREATH

Decisions in Life:

- Specific Moral

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- **Specific Moral**
- **Select Relational or Vocation**

Decisions in Life:

- **Specific Moral**
- **Select Relational or Vocation**
- **Simple Functional**

Key Thought: Recognize that
unwise decisions can lead to
many of the same
consequences as wrong
decisions in life.

Trust in the LORD with all your
heart, and lean not on your own
understanding; in all your ways
acknowledge Him, and He shall
direct your paths.

—PROVERBS 3:5-6 NKJV

LifeCode

Exercise the
Essential Principle
of Faith

LifeCode

Eliminate the
Practice of
Independent Thought

**The wise inherit honor,
but fools are put to shame!**

—PROVERBS 3:35 NLT

**The wise are glad to be
instructed, but babbling fools
fall flat on their faces.**

—PROVERBS 10:8 NLT

**Fools think they need no
advice, but the wise
listen to others.**

—PROVERBS 12:15 NLT

**Wise people don't make a
show of their knowledge,
but fools broadcast their folly.**

—PROVERBS 12:23 NLT

**Wise people think before
they act; fools don't and
even brag about it!**

—PROVERBS 13:16 NLT

**The wise look ahead to see
what is coming, but fools
deceive themselves.**

—PROVERBS 14:8 NLT

LifeCode

**Establish Clear
Priorities for
Wise Decisions**

A diagram featuring a central cross with four arrows pointing outwards (up, down, left, right). A red curved arrow on the left side points clockwise, and a yellow curved arrow on the right side points counter-clockwise.

**In all your ways
acknowledge Him,
and He shall
direct your paths.**
—PROVERBS 3:6 NKJV

**“With every decision you make,
no matter how small or large,
you are making a statement
about what matters to you.”**
—DAVID P. HELFAND

Put God first.

Put God first:

A. Schedule

Put God first:

A. Schedule
B. Substance

Honor the LORD with your possessions and with the first fruits of all your increase; so your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.

—PROVERBS 3:9-10 NKJV

Put God first:

- A. Schedule
- B. Substance
- C. Struggles

My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor detest His correction; for whom the LORD loves He corrects, just as a father the son in whom he delights.

—PROVERBS 3:11-12 NKJV

Put God first:

- A. Schedule
- B. Substance
- C. Struggles
- D. Service

Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in the power of your hand to do so.

—PROVERBS 3:27 NKJV

LifeCode

Expect God's
Guidance and Prove
His Faithfulness

How Do You Know the Will of God?

A. Begin with the Bible

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

—PSALM 119:105 NKJV

Precepts—clear moral codes.

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Principles—specific guides for life.

Precepts—clear moral codes.

Principles—specific guides for life.

**Promises—assurances for when
you don't understand or think
you cannot go on.**

How Do You Know the Will of God?

A. Begin with the Bible

B. Pray with Persistence

...pray without ceasing.

—1 Thessalonians 5:17 NKJV

How Do You Know the Will of God?

- A. Begin with the Bible**
- B. Pray with Persistence**
- C. Consider the Circumstances**

How Do You Know the Will of God?

- A. Begin with the Bible**
- B. Pray with Persistence**
- C. Consider the Circumstances**
- D. Think Things Through**

How Do You Know the Will of God?

- A. Begin with the Bible**
- B. Pray with Persistence**
- C. Consider the Circumstances**
- D. Think Things Through**
- E. Ask for Advice**

**Plans go wrong for lack of
advice; many counselors
bring success.**

—PROVERBS 15:22 NLT

**So don't go to war without
wise guidance; victory depends
on having many counselors.**

—PROVERBS 24:6 NLT

How Do You Know the Will of God?

- A. Begin with the Bible
- B. Pray with Persistence
- C. Consider the Circumstances
- D. Think Things Through
- E. Ask for Advice
- F. Deal With Your Desires

How Do You Know the Will of God?

- A. Begin with the Bible
- B. Pray with Persistence
- C. Consider the Circumstances
- D. Think Things Through
- E. Ask for Advice
- F. Deal With Your Desires
- G. Take One Step at a Time