"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

Decisions in Life:

- Specific Moral
- Select Relational or Vocation

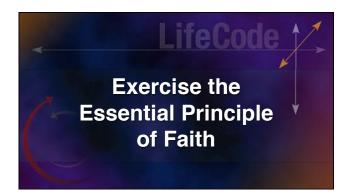
Decisions in Life:

- 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





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



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



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.

Precepts—clear moral codes.

Principles—specific guides for life.

Principles—specific guides for life.

Promises—assurances for when

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

A. Begin with the Bible
B. Pray with Persistence

...pray without ceasing. –1 Thessalonians 5:17 NKJV

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