

Making Wise Choices

Life Class Lesson 4

Introduction:

Lot's Choice

Gen 13:9 "Is not the whole land before you? Please separate from me; if to the left, then I will go to the right; or if to the right, then I will go to the left."

10 Lot lifted up his eyes and saw all the valley of the Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere--this was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah--like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt as you go to Zoar. 11 So Lot chose for himself all the valley of the Jordan, and Lot journeyed eastward. Thus they separated from each other.

12 Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled in the cities of the valley, and moved his tents as far as Sodom. 13 Now the men of Sodom were wicked exceedingly and sinners against the LORD.

I. Choices Which Greatly Affect Our Lives.

- **Accept or Reject Christ**

Luke 10:16 "The one who listens to you listens to Me, and the one who rejects you rejects Me; and he who rejects Me rejects the One who sent Me."

Matt. 11:28 "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.

29 "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS.

Lays the foundation for all other choices

- **Choosing Your Friends.**

Having close friends can be a wonderful blessing

Prov. 17:17 A friend loves at all times, And a brother is born for adversity.

But the wrong friends can be a curse

Prov. 12:26 The righteous is a guide to his neighbor, But the way of the wicked leads them astray.

- **Choosing a Career.**

Will effect your lifestyle, marriage, family and service to God.

1Tim. 6:10 For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

Matt. 6:33 "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

- **Choosing a Mate.**

Prov. 12:2 A good man will obtain favor from the LORD, But He will condemn a man who devises evil.

Prov. 14:1 The wise woman builds her house, But the foolish tears it down with her own hands.

- **Choosing Where to Live.**

Lot made a good business decision, but a bad moral one

II. Suggestions for Making Wise Choices.

1. Ask God for Wisdom.

James 1:5 But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

6 But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind.

Asking for wisdom requires patience & diligence – Prov.2:1-9.

2. Ask Others for Advice.

1. There is safety in having many counselors

Prov. 11:14 Where there is no guidance the people fall, But in abundance of counselors there is victory.

Prov. 12:15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, But a wise man is he who listens to counsel.

3. Commit Your Choices to the Lord.

Psalms 37:5 Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, and He will do it.

6 He will bring forth your righteousness as the light And your judgment as the noonday.

7 Rest in the LORD and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who carries out wicked schemes.

III. Responding to Wrong Choices.

Learn from the Mistakes of Others.

- Do what Lot did: **Heed and flee!**

Heed the Word of God.

- Do what Peter did: **Repent and serve!**

Repent, if sin is involved (as when Peter denied Christ).

Serve the Lord with what time you have left in this life.

- Do what Paul did: **Accept and live!**

a. Accept the forgiveness Jesus provides –

1Tim. 1:15 It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all.

16 Yet for this reason I found mercy, so that in me as the foremost, Jesus Christ might demonstrate His perfect patience as an example for those who would believe in Him for eternal life.

- Let the past go

Php. 3:13 Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,

14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.