

CHOOSING WELL, through Holy Discerning

Issue at hand:

1. *Pray* "God, please show me your will & timing in this matter. Help me to be free from prejudice & confusion. Help me exercise the wisdom & courage you've promised, & to know your love."
DO this before, during & after you make a decision.

2. *Clearly identify* the issue or decision (over which you have control); state it simply, clearly, authentically & positively.
e.g. Move family to Fort McMurray for oil field work by mid July 2017.

3. *Gather all necessary information*, given time limits & ability, relevant specifics Who? What? Where? When? How much? Why?

4. *Draw up a 5 column Pro & Con's list*, stating options: to do/not do with Pro/Con, either side. List important aspects down one column, & begin to populate the other columns.

Issue at Hand

E.g. Move: Edmonton to Work

Remain in Toronto Job

PRO	CON	Theme	PRO	CON
Close to B.C. family	Away from Mom	Family		
New Opportunity	Low Oil Price	Work	Big T-O-Job Market Close to school	Income capped
		School		
		Church	Love FHBCatc fellowship	
		Home		Maxed \$

Issue at hand:

5. *Read the Bible*, specifically seeking Biblical precedent, commands or precepts in the area of decision. E.g. Abraham & Sarah, Joseph & Mary all followed God's will & moved to new places.

6. *Answer:* how will either decision affect your life purpose (death-bed evaluation)? Then weigh accordingly E.g. "We're called to help Canadian newcomers..."

7. *Answer:* will how either decision bring you / others closer, or push you/ others away, from God or sharing his love with others? E.g. moving may increase work demands & diminish time to worship...

8. *Be willing to wait on God & pray:* "God I humbly admit my lack: of clarity, courage, knowledge, faith. Please give me eyes to see as you do. Help me know inner freedom & balance to properly evaluate what would give you the most glory, and draw me closer to my authentic self. Expose my motives and values; help me listen to you, and receive good direction from others."

9. *Get something to eat / drink, rest* for 5 minutes, 5 days, 5 weeks (depending on situation). Reconsider your pros & cons, then circle the area to which you are drawn. Ask "Do I want this? Do I believe God wants this? Is this consistent with other ways He is leading me? Seek all 3 'Yes' answers, or repeat process.

10. *Make a decision, accept God's love ... Don't look back*

"Be strong & very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go.. Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:5-9

