

Making Better Decisions

Philippians 1:9-11

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The decisions we make in life determine the kind of life we will have.

- 1. If we have an increasing love in our heart we will make better decisions.**
- 2. If we are growing in our knowledge we will make better decisions.**
- 3. If we are growing in wisdom we will make better decisions.**

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SUGGESTED DISCUSSION POINTS FROM JULY 22, 2018 SERMON

1. Think about some of the best decisions you ever made and the results of those decisions. Think of some of the worst decisions you ever made and the result of those.
2. Paul uses the word “discern” in the passage. It was a word used by jewelers to decide if a diamond was truly a diamond. It means to really have some understanding and knowledge. Paul says some things will help us discern. Increasing love (“that your love may abound more and more”). How will love help me make decisions and discern better?
3. Mark 12: 29-31 tells us where our greatest love should be directed. If we loved God like that how would it affect our decision making?
4. The greatest commandment also tells us to love others as ourselves. How will my love for others help me make better decisions? Think of a good parent making decisions for the family and children.
5. Paul says increasing knowledge will also help us discern. How would more knowledge about God and his word help? How would more knowledge of life help?
6. What is wisdom according to the Bible? Psalm 111:10 tells us where it comes from. It is not just knowledge but the insight to use it. Look at Solomon as an example. I Kings 3: 16-28.
7. How can we gain wisdom to make better decisions? James 1: 5. How then would prayer play into decision making?
8. Imagine a church full of people growing in love for God and each other, growing in the knowledge of God and life, and growing in wisdom. Would that be a church that made good decisions? Now imagine the opposite. Get the picture?