

Oaks-West Church of Christ

204 Second Street • Burnet, TX 78611 • 512-756-4493

December 13, 2020

Choices

by Ken Weliever

The other day Norma Jean and I discovered a quaint little breakfast spot on North Redington Beach, The Sweet Sage Café. It's a combination café, gift shop, and boutique with a beautiful outdoor garden.

After a delicious breakfast, we began browsing through the gift shop reading some of the clever plaques. Many were inspirational. Others were funny. And a few slightly risqué. However, this one caught our attention. And we knew we needed to buy it.

Making good choices is essential to every successful endeavor in life. In fact, the quality and kind of life we live hinges on our daily choices. The prolific author Anonymous wrote, "Life is all about making choices. Always do your best to make the right ones, and always do your

best to learn from the wrong ones."

God made us free moral agents with the power to choose. Author and psychologist, Dr. J. Martin Kohe, went so far as to say, "The greatest power a person possesses is his power to choose." And "every choice you make," observed Zig Ziglar, "has an end result."

The Bible is filled with examples of people who made poor choices with disastrous results. From the very beginning when Eve chose to listen to Satan's lies to eat the forbidden fruit, to Lot's choice of pitching his tents toward sinful Sodom, to King David's decision to gratify his lusts with Bathsheba, we see how wrong choices can drastically affect your life, impact your family, and alter your destiny.

When Israel stood on the brink of

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the promised land, Moses in his farewell address challenged them with this stirring message.

“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, in that I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live...”

“But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, I announce to you today that you shall surely perish...”

“I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live that you may love the Lord your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days...” (Deut 30:15-20).

Unfortunately, Israel too often forgot God, disobeyed His Word, made sinful choices, and suffered the devastating consequences. This ancient, divine principle is no less true in the 21st century.

Leadership guru John Maxwell was right when he wrote, “Life is a matter of choices, and every choice you make makes you.” Consider these steps in our daily choices.

Choices lead to actions. Repeated actions produce habits. Habits form character.

And our character is who we really are and reaps an ultimate destiny. William Jennings Bryant expressed it this way, “Destiny is not a matter of chance; it is a matter of choice.”

Every choice, big or small, has a consequence. The career we choose. The person we marry. The friends we associate with. The books we read. The movies we watch. The vacations we take. How we spend money. The entertainment we enjoy. The way we manage time. And even what we eat and drink.

Even in times of extreme stress, adverse circumstances, uncomfortable situations, and disagreeable people, we have a choice. We can react or respond. Be grouchy or gracious. Be disruptive or disciplined. Become bitter or become better.

“No matter what the situation, remind yourself, I have a choice,” advised Deepak Chopra.

Ultimately all our choices ought to honor God, follow the principles and precepts of His Word, set a good example for others, and contribute to our spiritual growth.

“Make good choices today so you don’t have regrets tomorrow.”

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Welcome!

When you visit our assemblies, you will be received friendly, kindly and courteously. We believe this to be the natural attitude of those who truly love God and mankind. Though you may at first be among strangers, we hope that you will come to know us well and count us as your friends.

We offer Bible studies as well as correspondence courses for those interested in learning more about what God expects of us.



Upcoming Ladies' Bible Classes - Next class TBA.

Services - The elders have decided to continue with the current service times of 10:45 am Sundays and 7:00 pm Wednesdays through the month of January. We will reevaluate in January. Thank you for your support and encouragement as we make these difficult decisions! --DT for the elders

If you know of upcoming events, please inform Darrell so they can be included here.



Please remember the following individuals in your daily prayers:

June Owens
Jack Wilson
Jerry & Nancy Richardson
Karen Hallmark
Shirley Perkins' brother, Leon
Morgan O'Hair
Dinah Williams
Tyler Hairston
Anna Urquhart

And continue to pray for each other

If you know of someone that needs to be on this list, please tell Darrell (email preferred) and provide updates so names stay on the list as long as needed.

We have many that face challenges on a daily basis and need your prayers as well.

“praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints,”
(Ephesians 6:18 ESV)

NOTES

ABOUT US

The Oaks West church of Christ is a group of individual Christians who have been added to the Lord's body through baptism (Acts 2:38, 47; Gal 3:26, 27), and have joined themselves together (Acts 2:42ff) in an effort to do the Lord's will.

We are not a part of any larger organization – we do not follow any man-made creeds and we do not answer to anyone other than the Lord.

Our standard of faith and practice is the Word of God. We believe in the God of revelation (Eph 3:1-7; 2 Tim 3:16-17) and follow his instructions in an effort to have an ongoing relationship with him (1 John 4:7-11; 5:3).

Our times of study and worship are open to all, and our members are happy to meet with interested individuals or families for study.

Evangelist

Darrell Trammel
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Elders

George Gresham
Jim Johnson
Darrell Trammel

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Classes 9:45 A.M.
Worship 10:45 A.M.
Worship 6:00 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Classes 7:00 P.M.