



EXTRAORDINARY

A LIFE OR DEATH DECISION

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GROUP ICE BREAKER

Share of a time you got lost as a result of bad directions or taking a wrong turn. How did you correct the mistake?

REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- I will take responsibility for the people God has entrusted to me.
- I will take responsibility where I have been abdicating.
- I will stop making excuses and do the best I can with what I have.
- I will review and renew my values and call people to action.
- I will fight the cultural values of power, pleasure and possessions.
- I will commit to people and not seek their approval.

THIS WEEK'S SERMON RECAP

There is a choice that stands before every human being, the choice between life or death. There is a way that leads to life, joy, and freedom, and there is a way that leads to death, guilt, and disappointment. Moses gives three indicators of what obedience looks like. The first is to love the lord your God, the second is to walk in obedience with Him, and finally to keep His commandments, decrees and laws. Moses made it very clear, this obedience will lead to life. However, there is another road that leads to Death. The first indicator for this road is if your heart turns away, if your heart is no longer warm towards God. The next is if you are not obedient, if you're ignoring God's voice. And lastly if you are drawn away, unintentionally marching off to other God's. There are three different points on the road that leads to death, that will make it increasingly difficult to stop the further you go down that road. The first point involves a bad choice, the second point is an ingrained pattern of behavior you've become attached to, and the final point is a pattern that has you in its grip. Don't allow yourself to get to that third point, or it will be increasingly difficult to get back to where you were. Moses said, "Your choices are a matter of life and death." Do you know what your choice is?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Begin by reading Deuteronomy 30:11-20 together.

1. Moses gives three indications what obedience looks like: love God, walk in obedience to him, and keep his commandments. What does Moses say will be the result of choosing obedience? What have you experienced life as a result of obedience to God?



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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (CONT)

2. Moses also gives three indicators of the road that leads to death: your heart turns away, you're not obedient, you are drawn away. What does Moses say will be the result of this? What have you experienced in life as a result of disobedience to God?
3. The first point on the road that leads to death involves bad choices. What's needed is to say "no more" and make a change. What keeps people from making necessary changes? What has kept you from a change?
4. Read Proverbs 12:15. The second point on the road that leads to death involves ingrained patterns of behavior. Have you experienced the need for support from another person or program to overcome patterns of behavior? Share with the group what that experience did for you and meant to you.
5. The third point on the road that leads to death is a pattern that has you in its grip. What's needed here is to completely reorder life and acknowledge truth. Discuss why this can be so difficult for people.
6. Read Proverbs 14:12. What is the danger of following human wisdom? Give some examples that illustrate how people often follow what seems right to them rather than following God.

NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

- Now that I'm aware of a pattern of sin in my life, I'm making a decision to change.
- I will acknowledge the truth that I cannot control my sin on my own.
- I'm saying "No More!" to a destructive pattern of behavior.
- I will bring this destructive pattern into the light by confessing it to a trusted friend or counselor.
- I will find someone to hold me accountable.
- I will make turning around a top priority that I arrange my life around.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- Deuteronomy 30:11-20
- Proverbs 14:12