



Notes | May 19, 2024

Play Different: How do I live wisely In a complex world?

Freedom and Responsibility go hand in hand. Daniel and his friends were raised in the values of Jerusalem, but as young adults they found themselves having to carry their roots to a new place. Daniel and his friends had to navigate decisions in a worldly environment with their spiritual roots. They had the freedom to choose what they wanted, but they used their roots and focused on the responsibility of their callings as Christians to glorify God rather than give in to Babylon. Our decisions, much like theirs, have consequences.

Key Scripture | Joshua 24:15

"Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Related Scriptures

1 Corinthians 9:24, Galatians 6:7-9, Hebrews 12:11, Proverbs 12:26, 1 Thessalonians 5:11, Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, Lamentations 3:22-23, Proverbs 18:10

Icebreakers:

Q: What has been your most embarrassing hair style?



Key Thoughts and Reflections:

I. There are three types of decisions we make. Each of these decisions, if improperly weighted or ignored, can affect us.

Q: "Wearing a hat" represents the decisions that we make quickly. They are low stake decisions like small purchases, weekend plans, hobbies. Can you share a time where you made a low stake decision that brought value to your life?

Q: Haircuts represent decisions that can be fixed, but they might take a while to recover from. Haircuts represent anything from dating, to friendships, to picking a major in college. What is a "haircut" decision you have made that led you farther away from God? OR closer to God?

Q: Tattoos are decisions that are often irreversible. They leave a mark in some way, i.e who you marry, broken physical boundaries, substance abuse. Who do you talk to about your "tattoo" decisions? Have you ever treated a major/tattoo life decision as a "hat" decision? What happened if so?

II. The art of living wisely starts with pre deciding your routines.

Q: Summer is a great opportunity to reset your irreducible rhythms. What is something that you could implement or cut back on in your life that will help you stay rooted?

Q: Do you have an accountability partner?

Q: We set times aside for work, working out, studying, dating, holidays, etc. Why do we as a culture find it difficult to find time to be with God?

III. When you make a bad decision, run to God, don't run away from Him.

Q: For those who 'already have tattoos', was it easy or hard for you to take those to God?

Q: Do you feel equipped to stand for your values when the world challenges them? Why or why not?

Q: Is there something you feel you need to hold on or let go of to dive deeper into your relationship with Jesus?

Get Practical

Today we talked about the different types of decisions that we make, how we weigh them, and who can help us make them. If you have someone in your life that leads you into God's presence with these decisions, send them a text thanking them and take a moment to thank God for them. Today, we also talked to our graduating seniors about tough questions that they have about faith.



Even if you don't know a graduating senior, can you say a prayer for our next generation? Take a moment to write down or pray out loud a covering of righteousness and a blessing of love over them!