



Choosing To Make Wiser Decisions

Date: October 3, 2021

Series Big Question: What kind of decisions are you/we currently making?

Series Summary:

1. Deciding to Make Wiser Decisions (**Want better**)

- Good decision makers work to make wise decisions

2. Deciding to Be Curious (**Be Curious**)

- Good decision makers are curious

3. Deciding To Fight Your Way Back After a Bad Decision (**Fight Back**)

- Good decision makers fight back

4. Deciding To Go Forward (**Go Forward**)

- Good decision makers go forward

Text: Proverbs 27:12

- Proverbs 27:12 (NIV): 12 The **prudent** see danger and take **refuge**, but the simple keep going and pay the penalty.
- Proverbs 27:12 (NLT): A prudent person **foresees danger** and **takes precautions**. The simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the **consequences**.

I. Three Skills You Will Need To Make Better Decisions

1. Learn How To Map The Facts
2. Learn How To Predict Based on The Facts
3. Learn How To Decide Based On The Facts of The Map

Source: **Farsighted: How to Make Decisions That Matter the Most** by Stephen Johnson

II. One Bad Decision That Changed Moses' Life (**The Mapping Phase**)

Note: Moses decided to take matters into his own hand and kill a man

Moses Decided to Lose His Temper Instead of Reasoning With a Guy

- Exodus 2:11–14 (NIV): 11 One day, after Moses had grown up, he went out to where his own people were and watched them at their hard labor. He saw an Egyptian **beating** a Hebrew, one of his own people. 12 **Looking this way and that and seeing no one, he killed the Egyptian** and hid him in the sand. 13 The next day he went out and saw two Hebrews fighting. He asked the one in the wrong, "Why are you hitting your fellow Hebrew?"



- 14 The man said, “Who made you ruler and judge over us? Are you thinking of killing me as you killed the Egyptian?” Then Moses was afraid and thought, “What I did must have become known.”

Question: Are you looking this way and that way and making bad decisions?

III. The Results of Moses’ Bad Decision (The Predictable Phase)

1. He has to run for his life and lose everything. (One decision changed all his options)

- 15 When Pharaoh heard of this, he tried to kill Moses, but Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to live in Midian, **where he sat down by a well.**

2. He lost all of his resources and the value of his position and educational advantage

- Acts 7:22 (NIV): 22 Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in speech and action.

3. He lost touch with his family for forty years

IV. Two Decisions That Improved Moses’ Life (The Decision Phase)

1. He decided to help someone (He did not kill the shepherds)

- 16 Now a priest of Midian had seven daughters, and they came to draw water and fill the troughs to water their father’s flock. 17 **Some shepherds came along and drove them away, but Moses got up and came to their rescue and watered their flock.**

2. He decided to move beyond his failure and start over

- 18 When the girls returned to Reuel their father, he asked them, “Why have you returned so early today?” 19 They answered, “An Egyptian rescued us from the shepherds. He even drew water for us and watered the flock.” 20 “And where is he?” Reuel asked his daughters. “Why did you leave him? Invite him to have something to eat.”
- 21 **Moses agreed to stay with the man, who gave his daughter Zipporah to Moses in marriage.** 22 Zipporah gave birth to a son, and Moses named him Gershom, saying, “I have become a foreigner in a foreign land.”

3. He did not try to recreate what was destroyed

4. He decided to work with what he had left

Next Time: Deciding To Be Curious

Big Question: Are You Curious Enough?

Read Ahead: Exodus 3:1-4