



Approach to Individual Decision Making

Step One: Live with Your “Yes” on the Table for God

- Do you believe your sin and folly require both the gospel and God’s continual guidance for a satisfying life?
- Do you believe that honoring God in your decision making is the only way to lasting joy?
- Do you believe that God is good and, therefore, can be trusted to guide your life?

Step Two: Identify What You’re Stewarding for God

- Make a prioritized list of your (a) relationships, (b) responsibilities, (c) talents, and (d) passions.
- How does your list compare and compliment the lists your spouse / fiancé made?
- What areas on your list are in transition or when do you anticipate the next transition in each area?

Step Three: Manage the Basics with Excellence

- Do you have a family budget that each of you understand, honor, and consider as you make decisions?
- Do you have common expectations for your time that protects your family and guides your decision making?
- Do you anticipate future decisions and transitions in light of these two basic life resources?

Step Four: Watch for Challenges and Opportunities

1. Daily Opportunities
2. Daily Temptations
3. Transitional Opportunities
4. Transitional Challenges

- Do you have “normal” that mentally frees you to look for daily opportunities to obey God’s positive commands?
- What daily temptations most commonly make following God’s will seem complicated or unrealistic?
- What are the next anticipated transitions for your family? What opportunities and challenges will they bring?

Step Five: Pursue the Necessary Information and Counsel

1. Those Who Know You
2. Those Who Know Your Situation
3. Those Whose Character You Trust
4. Those Whose Wisdom You Trust

- Who knows you and your life well enough to speak into a significant decision?
- Do you have the humility to seek guidance when it is needed? Is pride or insecurity your obstacle to transparency?
- How well do you listen when seeking guidance? Does fear or impatience serve as your obstacle to humble listening?

Step Six: Seek God’s Guidance through Study and Prayer

1. Spiritual Awareness
2. Self-Awareness
3. Family Awareness
4. Church Awareness
5. World Awareness
6. Spirit Awareness

- Do you pray and read your Bible regularly so these are not new disciplines during a time of decision?
- When you read your Bible do you reflect and when you pray do you pause to allow God to speak?
- Do you view yourself as belonging to your family, church, and the world in a way that their concerns impact your prayer life and decision making process?

Step Seven: Decide with Confidence and Freedom

- When the point of decision comes do you usually feel a sense of freedom and confidence?
- Can you resist the sense that you have been “demoted” to God’s “Plan B” when a decision goes poorly?
- Do you feel God’s love in the freedom He grants to allow you to make decisions based upon His design for your joy?