**How to Make Wise Decisions**

*“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.”* James 1:5-8

**SIX STEPS TO MAKING WISE DECISIONS**

**STEP ONE: PRAY\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*“Those who trust in themselves are fools, but those who walk in wisdom are kept safe.”* Proverbs 28:26

Ask:

**STEP TWO: GET \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*"Every prudent man acts with knowledge."*  Proverbs 13:16

*“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.”*  Hosea 4:6

*“He who answers a matter before he hears it, it is folly and shame to him.”* Proverbs 18:13

*"It's stupid to decide before knowing the facts!"*  Proverbs 18:13 (Living Bible)

Ask:

**STEP THREE: ASK \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*“For by wise counsel you will wage your own war, and in a multitude of counselors there is safety.”* Proverbs 24:6

*“Plans are established by seeking advice; so if you wage war, obtain guidance.”*  Proverbs 20:18

*“Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid.”* Proverbs 12:1

Ask**:**

**STEP FOUR: CALCULATE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*"It is a trap to dedicate something rashly and only later to consider one’s vows."* Proverbs 20:25

Ask:

**STEP FIVE: PREPARE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*“The prudent see danger and take refuge, but the simple keep going and pay the penalty.”* Proverbs 22:3

Ask:

**STEP SIX: FACE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*“He who observes the wind will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap.”* Ecclesiastes 11:4

*"If God is for us, who can be against us?"*  Romans 8:31

Ask:

**Ode to the Zode**

by Dr. Seuss

Did I ever tell you about the young Zode,

Who came to two signs at the fork in the road?

One said to Place One, and the other, Place Two.

So the Zode had to make up his mind what to do.

Well... the Zode scratched his head, and his chin and his pants

And he said to himself, "I'll be taking a chance

If I go to Place One. Now, that place may be hot!

And so, how do I know if I'll like it or not?

On the other hand though, I'll be sort of a fool

If I go to Place Two and find it too cool.

In that case I may catch a chill and turn blue!

So, maybe Place One is the best, not Place Two,

But then again, what if Place One is too high?

I may catch a terrible earache and die!

So Place Two may be best! On the other hand though...

What might happen to me if Place Two is too low?

I might get some very strange pain in my toe!

So Place One may be best," and he started to go.

Then he stopped, and he said, "On the other hand though...

On the other hand... other hand... other hand though..."

And for 36 hours and a half that poor Zode

made starts and made stops at the fork in the road.

Saying, "Don't take a chance. No! You may not be right,"

Then he got an idea that was wonderfully bright!

"Play it safe!" cried the Zode. "I'll play it safe. I'm no dunce!

I'll simply start out for both places at once!"

And that's how the Zode who would not take a chance

Got no place at all with a split in his pants.



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May 15, 2011