
❖SERMON NOTES ❖

Sunday, May 19, 2013

“CHOOSING YOUR FUTURE”

(Hebrews 11:23-27)

Today we recognize our graduating high school seniors. For our graduating seniors and for all of us, life is defined by our choices. It is important that we learn to choose well – even when it’s hard.

1. Choice #1: Refuse to be _____.

“Don’t let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold, but let God remold your mind from within, so you may prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good” (Romans 12:2, Philips).

2. Choice #2: Short-term pain _____.

“We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation” (Romans 5:3-4, NLT).

3. Choice #3: God’s values, _____.

“For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world” (1 John 2:16, NASB).

These verses tell us the three things that God values:

1. God’s purpose is more valuable than _____.

2. People are more valuable than _____.

3. Peace of mind is more valuable than _____.

4. Choose to live by faith rather than _____.

“Without faith it is impossible to please God” (Hebrews 11:6, NIV).

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“CHOOSING YOUR FUTURE”

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1. Choice #1: Refuse to be defined by others.

“Don’t let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold, but let God remold your mind from within, so you may prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good” (Romans 12:2, Philips).

2. Choice #2: Short-term pain for long-term gain.

“choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin” (Hebrews 11:25, NASB).

“We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation” (Romans 5:3-4, NLT).

3. Choice #3: God’s values, not the world’s.

“He thought it was better to suffer for the sake of Christ than to own the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking ahead to his great reward” (Hebrews 11:26, NLT).

“For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world” (1 John 2:16, NASB).

“For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever” (1 John 2:16-17, NASB).

These verses tell us the three things that God values:

- 1. God's purpose is more valuable than popularity.**
- 2. People are more valuable than pleasure.**
- 3. Peace of mind is more valuable than possessions.**
- 4. Choose to live by faith rather than by fear.**

"Without faith it is impossible to please God" (Hebrews 11:6, NIV).