

Our Toxic Choices

Sermon Series: Small Things, Big Difference

It's often the SMALL things that no one sees that result in the BIG things that everyone wants.

THE PRINCIPLE OF THE PATH:

Direction - NOT INTENTION - Determines Destination

GETTING ON THE RIGHT PATH

Remember 3 Things

1. OUR CHOICES MATTER.
(Proverbs 27:12)
2. OUR FOCUS MATTERS.
(Psalm 119:35-37, Proverbs 4:25-27)
3. OUR SUBMISSION MATTERS.
(Proverbs 3:5-6 NLT)

HOW SERIOUS ARE YOU?

3 Questions and A Prayer

1. Am I being distracted by sin?
(1 Corinthians 5:6-7)
2. Is this pleasing to God?
(Romans 12:2 NLT)
3. Does this lure me away from where I want to be?
(1 Corinthians 6:12)

"Lord, help us to see trouble coming long before it gets here. And give us the wisdom to know what to do and the courage to do it." - Andy Stanley (Prov 27:12)

REALife Application

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching on, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

1. Talk about a time when you were lost. How did you get lost? How did you find your bearings?
2. Read Proverbs 7:6-27. When have you watched someone else go down a predictable path? What were the choices that they made? What were the outcomes that they experienced?
3. The principle of the path teaches that direction determines destination. What are some of the paths that you have taken in life? Where did they lead you?
4. What are the reasons that people avoid warning signs? Why is it that we sometimes walk right into trouble?
5. Read Proverbs 27:12. When have you seen someone look ahead and take the steps necessary to avoid impending danger? When have you seen someone walk right into trouble?
6. Taking refuge and responding to danger before it happens involves action. What are some things that you might have to *do* in order to avoid danger?
7. When have you seen a smart person make a dumb decision? When have you made a decision that made your question your IQ?
8. Read Proverbs 3:5. Why does it make sense to trust God over your own judgment?
9. What are some of the reasons why we lean on our own understanding to make decisions, rather than trust God with them?
10. Read Proverbs 3:6. Submission precedes direction. When we acknowledge God he clears the path before us. When have you submitted a decision before God? How did it turn out?

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- 2 **OUR** _____ **MATTERS.**
(Psalm 119:35-37, Proverbs 4:25-27)
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- 1 Am I being _____ by sin?
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- 2 Is this _____ to God?
(Romans 12:2 NLT)
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