

HOW DO I MAKE DECISIONS?

JEHOSHAPHAT

2 CHRONICLES 18:4

Day 16

How did King Jehoshaphat make a decision about whether to form an alliance with King Ahab or not? The answer is the standard for all Christians – SEARCH OUT THE WORD OF THE LORD. In those days, they had to seek out a prophet. We just reach up on the shelf. Let's face it. As kids, we did not want to hear, "Read the Bible for the answer". We never believed that all the issues of a teenager's life were written in the old, old Bible. Show me where marijuana is referred to. What does the Bible say about beating your wife for a good reason? Give me the verse that forbids Christian kids to dance. Where is pre-marital sex outlawed?

We focused in on all the issues that were not actually itemized, and did not take seriously all the stuff that was in there. What about: honoring parents, not getting drunk, feeding on God's word, praying regularly, getting to know God better, pursuing humility & fleeing from pride, attending church, loving the people who are nasty, winning people to Jesus, teaching people the Godly way, etc. All these things are taught clearly in the Bible; we ignored most of them throughout our earlier years. Then, we have the nerve to complain because the Bible does not supposedly cover everything?

How do we make decisions? The answer is "seek God's wisdom on the matter" through His Word (the Bible) & through prayer. The more we study the Bible & the more we talk to God, the better we see God's view of things. God sees a broader prospective. You will not read. "Thou shalt snort cocaine". However, you will read about honoring God, honoring parents, tripping up other brothers, abusing your body, causing disunity in the body, interfering with your communion with the Lord, curbing selfish & prideful activities, redeeming the time, eagerly waiting for the return of the Lord, and many more. I think the Bible covered your question. Say, Jehoshaphat, way to go! You asked for the word from the Lord for your decision; you got the answer; YOU IGNORED IT.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Explain how you make decisions. Are there improvements you could make?
2. How much do you cherish & obey God's word? Describe how your love for God's word is demonstrated in your life.

A PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

What do you need to say to God as you face the topic being discussed in this devotional? Write out your prayer word for word just as if you were praying. Use separate lined paper to record your prayer. Make sure you actually pray this prayer to the Lord. Be honest & be personal. After all, you mean business with God here. You want this area of your life either fixed, strengthened, added, or removed.