

MY DECISIONS

“Who should I talk to about _____?”

We are all faced with decisions that we must make each day that affect the lives of those around us. Some people care too much about what others think of their choices. Other people could care less about what others think of their choices. When God calls us to live and work together in spiritual community, we become more concerned about how our decisions affect our spiritual community. Another way of saying this is when I become more tuned into what God is doing in our midst, I make decisions that go along with His plan for us, and I am *not overly concerned* with how it will benefit me.

One of the surprising results of living in spiritual community is that when we go out of our way to be a blessing to someone around us who is in need of help, God frequently gives to us in unexpected ways. One of the most surprising ways God gives to us is when He prompts people to help us when we would never expect their help.

As you are faced with decisions that affect people around you, how do you answer the question “**Who should I talk to about _____?**” One of the best ways to answer this question is to take a few minutes to consider a few reflection questions:

1. Who am I accountable to that will care about my decision?
2. Who will be affected by my decision?
3. How will they be affected by my decision?

If you are used to making a lot of decisions in a day’s time, it is easy to forget to take the time to talk to the people who are most affected by your decisions or the people who are directly responsible for implementing the decisions you make. It’s also easy to get distracted and forget to record your decisions. Writing down your decisions and telling someone who will help you follow through with your decisions will lead to a growing trust with the people around you.

God cares about each of the decisions we make each day. Our decisions either draw us closer to God and to the people around us, or our decisions pull us away from God and our spiritual community. Before making important decisions, we would be wise to first consult God, ask for His guidance, and ask Him who we should talk to about decisions needing to be made.

Two of the benchmarks of those who clearly have stood out as leaders in spiritual community are those who ask God and ask people *before* they make decisions. The Bible says it this way:

“First seek the counsel of the Lord.” (1 Kings 22:5; 2 Chronicles 18:4) And, **“Plans fail for a lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.”** (Proverbs 15:22)

So let’s try it out...and let’s talk about it.

- **What decision(s) will you be making in the near future?**
- **Have you talked with God about your decision(s)?**
- **Who else should you talk to about your decision(s)?**

“Health Talks” are designed to help us learn to talk and deal with one another in ways that build understanding and a healthy, growing, supportive, Christian community.