

3. *Where do you turn to get your ultimate answers to your questions?  
To whom or what have you given that privileged place?*

- *Do your parents make your decisions for you? \_\_\_\_\_*
- *Are you concerned about pleasing your peers? \_\_\_\_\_*
- *Is there a trusted advisor on whose opinion you rely? \_\_\_\_\_*
- *Do you rely on your gut - or your experience? \_\_\_\_\_*
- *To whom, or what, do you turn to? \_\_\_\_\_*

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4. Read this famous quote from missionary Eric Liddell, who was made famous by the movie “Chariots of Fire.”

*If you are not guided by God - you will be guided by someone or something else.*

*- Spend time in prayer this week, asking God to reveal to you if you are trusting anyone else, or anything else, to guide your Decisions.*



FROM JOSHUA  
Sermon #9  
Joshua 9:1-27

Rev. Bill Impey  
*Grace* ...a community church  
August 16, 2009

## Decisions Decide Your Destiny

*We make our decisions, and then  
our decisions turn around and make us*  
- F. W. Boreham

### THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS

- **Clarify** the problem or issue
- **Gather** information about the options
- **Evaluate** the options
- **Make** a decision

### 1. The Obvious Conclusion isn't always the Right **Conclusion.**

*Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.*  
- Proverbs 3:5-6

## 2. Small Decisions can have Lasting **Consequences.**

*When the Lord your God brings you into the land you are entering to possess and drives out before you many nations, ...and when the Lord your God has delivered them over to you and you have defeated them, then you must defeat them totally. Make no treaty with them and show them no mercy, ...For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. - Deuteronomy 7:1-2, 6*

**“Why did God treat people so harshly in the O.T.?”**

**Answer =**

- *Do not look on them with pity and do not serve their gods, for that will be a snare to you. - Deuteronomy 7:16*
- *After the Lord your God has driven them out before you do not say to yourself, ‘The Lord has brought me here to take possession of this land because of my righteousness.’ No, it is on account of the wickedness of these nations that the Lord is going to drive them out before you. - Deut. 9:4*
- *The land you are entering to possess is a land polluted by the corruption of its peoples. By their detestable practices they have filled it with their impurity from one end to the other. - Ezra 9:11*

## 3. Christians are to Let Their Decisions **Belong** to God as Well.

The DECISION MAKING PROCESS is missing a crucial ingredient - **Prayer**

## Food for Thought

For the week of August 9, 2009  
(Questions and Scriptures for further personal study)

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*Community Groups are on summer break, but they'll resume the week of September 20<sup>th</sup>! If you enjoy open discussions about the scripture and how they relate to your everyday life, than you need to come to the Sunday Adult Class - Sunday mornings @ 9am.*

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1. Allowing the Canaanites to remain in the land would mean allowing their religious influence to remain as well. God knew that this would spell trouble for the Israelites.  
- *What did God have to say about this in each of these verses?*
  - Deuteronomy 7:16
  - Deuteronomy 9:4
  - Ezra 9:11
2. In 2 Kings 21 the Canaanites' religious influence had gotten so bad that even the king of Judah practiced sorcery & divination, he consulted mediums & spiritists, he set up altars for sacrifices to Baal & Asherah, and the planets & the stars; not only all around Jerusalem but right in the temple courts! He kept prostitutes in the temple with whom worshipers would have intercourse as an act of worship. He even sacrificed his own son in the fire in the worship of these false gods.  
- *Please read the following verses?*
  - 1 Kings 14:21-24
  - 2 Kings 16:3
  - 2 Kings 21:1-7
  - 2 Kings 23:4-14