

# Priorities for Good Choices

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to Maximize Your Life to the Fullest

God prompted a review of this study  
in the night Friday, though I already  
had a different topic for this service.

Our children on Friday had an event called **JOY** Club, which is based on prioritizing God and others over self.

What does **JOY** Club mean?

**J** = Jesus

**O** = Others

**Y** = You

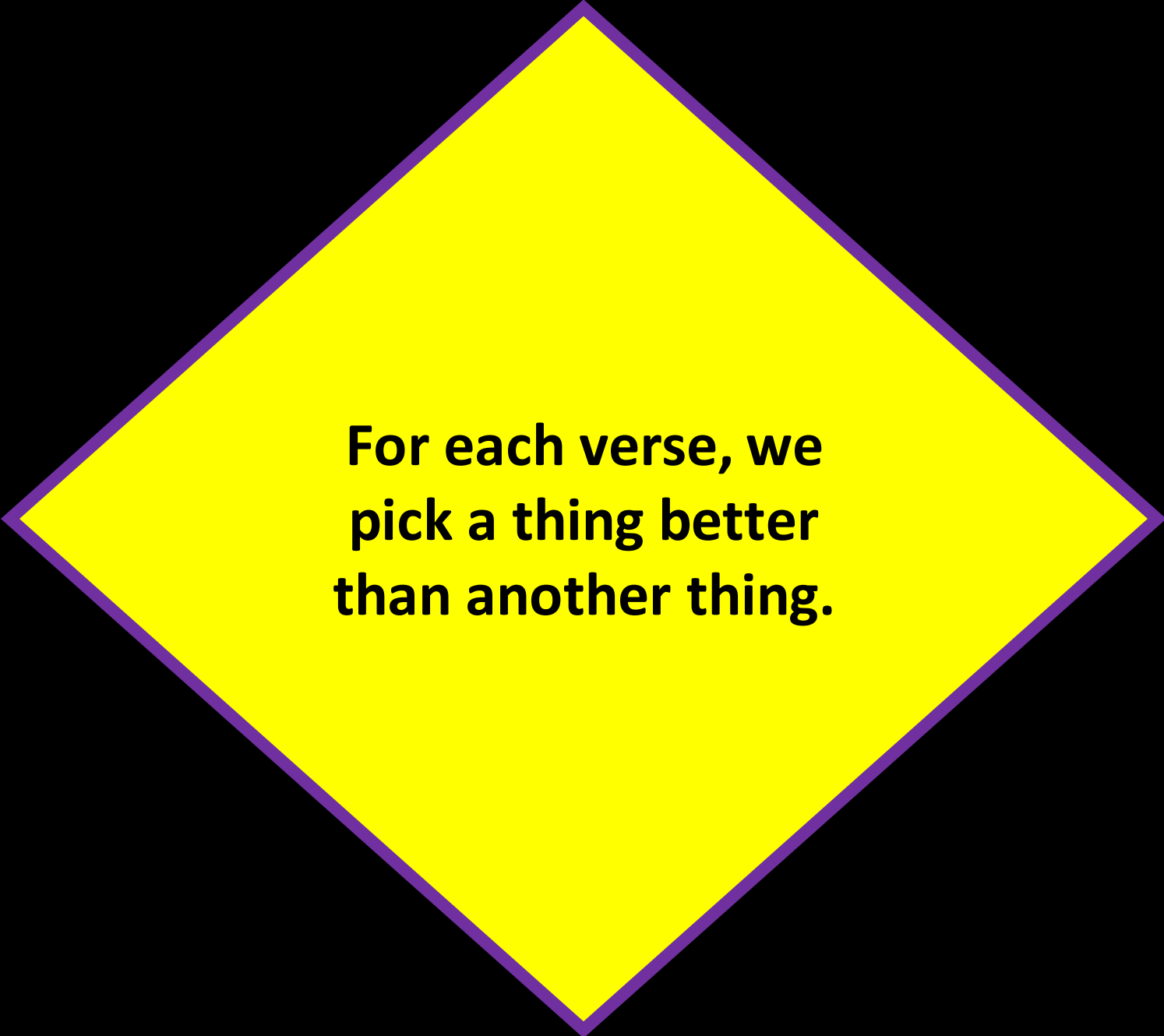
We recently studied Bible warnings against destructive decision making of emotional and impulsive choices.

<https://letgodbetrue.com/sermons/index/year-2021/destructive-decision-making/>

Our heavenly Father has compared and ranked things in the divine library of the Bible and told us which is best.

This study will help everyday choices,  
but it will also teach you wise Bible  
interpretation and application.





**For each verse, we  
pick a thing better  
than another thing.**


36 Master, which is the great commandment in the law?

37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

38 This is the first and great commandment.

39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.


Matthew 22:36-39



**What is better?  
What is worse?  
What is greater?  
What is lesser?**

Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;


Romans 12:10



**What is better?  
What is worse?  
What is greater?  
What is lesser?**

Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

Philippians 2:3



**What is better?  
What is worse?  
What is greater?  
What is lesser?**

Thus, we get JOY Club.

J = Jesus

O = Others

Y = You



By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

John 13:35

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

Galatians 6:10

41 And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things:

42 But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

Luke 10:41-42

No intentional order is followed in these verses, as the variety of the comparisons is part of the lesson.

I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I.

I Corinthians 7:8

But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn.

I Corinthians 7:9

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

III John 1:2

Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord; and the Lord for the body.

I Corinthians 6:13



10 And he called the multitude, and said unto them, Hear, and understand:

11 Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man.

Matthew 15:10-11

7 But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness.

8 For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

9 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance.

I Timothy 4:7-9

A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth.

Ecclesiastes 7:1

A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth.

Ecclesiastes 7:1

6 Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord:

7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

8 We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

II Corinthians 5:6-8

33 I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel.

34 Yea, ye yourselves know, that these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me.

35 I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Acts 20:33-35

Open rebuke is better than secret love.

Proverbs 27:5

And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

1 Samuel 15:22



Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.

Proverbs 31:30

Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.

Ephesians 5:4

1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

Colossians 3:1-2

But if ye had known what this meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice, ye would not have condemned the guiltless.

Matthew 12:7

And he said unto them, The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath:

Mark 2:27

He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.

Proverbs 16:32

And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves:  
for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.

I Peter 4:8

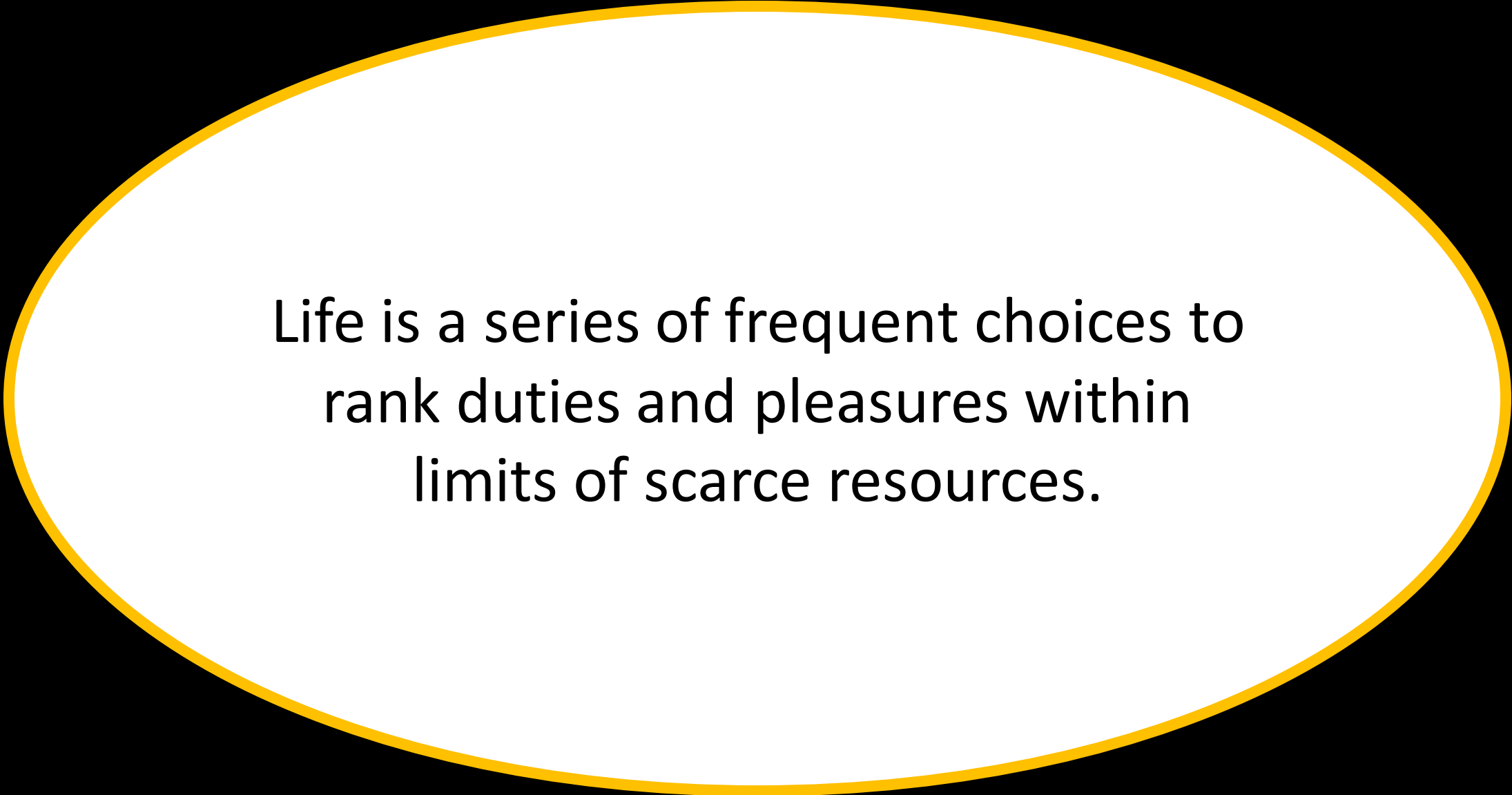




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to Maximize Your Life to the Fullest



Life is a series of frequent choices to rank duties and pleasures within limits of scarce resources.

The world promotes its priorities via school, the media, and peers.

God has communicated His priorities for our lives in the Bible.

Scripture describes the perfect man,  
so if we leave His priorities, we will  
become more and more deformed.

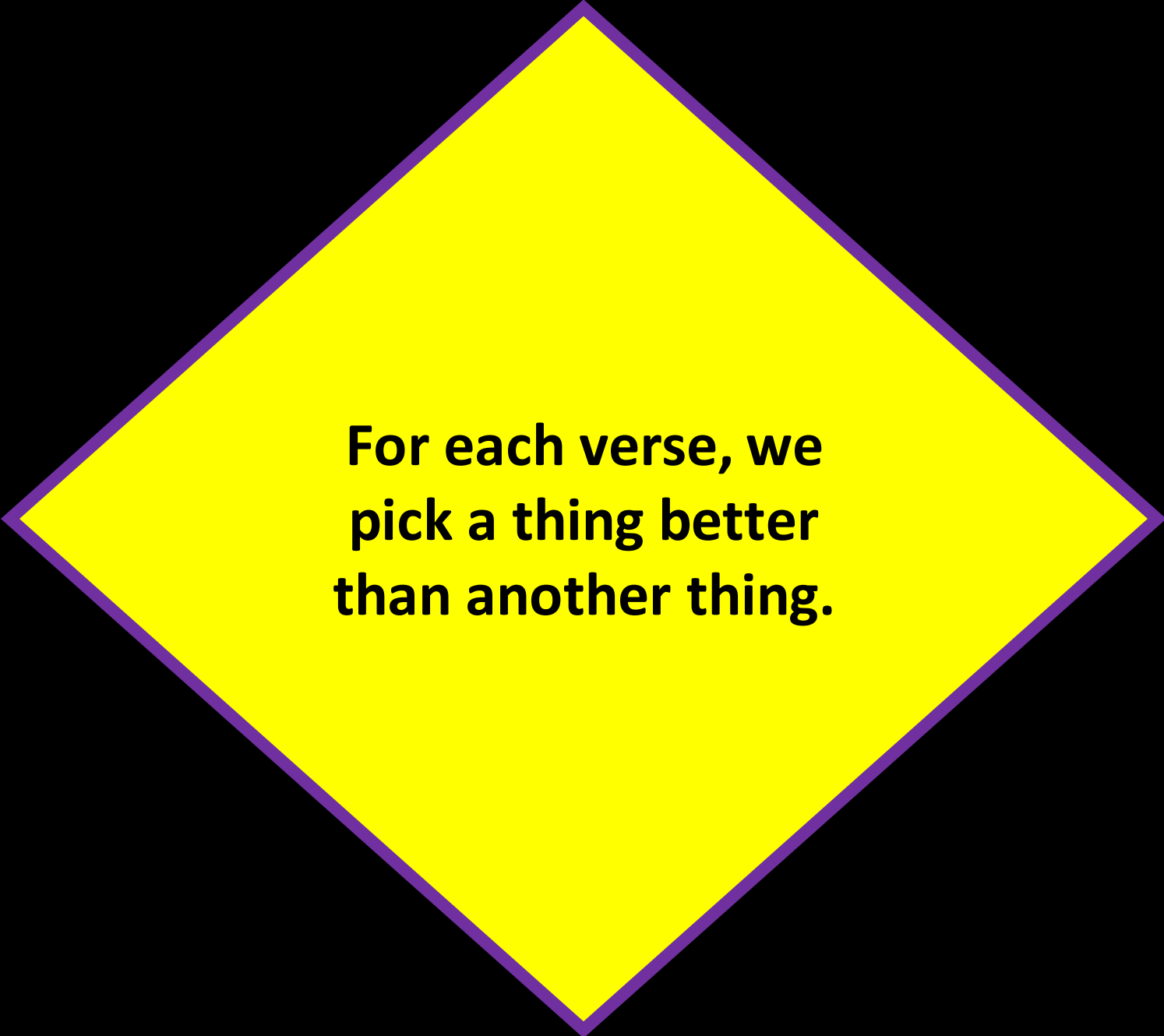
## Three enemies hate good choices.

1. Your heart and its depraved thoughts.
2. The world and peer pressure shame you.
3. Satan will entice you by his three devices.


By learning God's priorities, we can  
find a godly philosophy or plan for life.

This study will help everyday choices,  
but it will also teach you wise Bible  
interpretation and application.





**For each verse, we  
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**What is better?  
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If the iron be blunt, and he do not whet the edge, then must he put to more strength: but wisdom is profitable to direct.

Ecclesiastes 10:10

More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

Psalm 19:10

Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food.

Job 23:12

But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.

1 Corinthians 12:31

And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

1 Corinthians 13:13

For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Psalm 84:10



But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness;  
and all these things shall be added unto you.

Matthew 6:33

But godliness with contentment is great gain.

1 Timothy 6:6

A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked.

Psalm 37:16

Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

Matthew 5:24

But if any widow have children or nephews, let them learn first to shew piety at home, and to requite their parents: for that is good and acceptable before God.

I Timothy 5:4

2 Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;

3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

Ephesians 6:2-3

For Adam was first formed, then Eve.

I Timothy 2:13

Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.

Proverbs 3:15



The discretion of a man deferreth his anger; and it is his glory to pass over a transgression.

Proverbs 19:11

- 1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;
- 2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

I Timothy 2:1-2

7 Two things have I required of thee; deny me them not before I die:

8 Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me:

9 Lest I be full, and deny thee, and say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain.

Proverbs 30:7-9

For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not.

II Corinthians 8:12

Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.

Ecclesiastes 7:8a

Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.

Ecclesiastes 7:8b

Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud.

Proverbs 16:19

But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

James 3:17



3 Then came the word of the LORD by Haggai the prophet, saying,

4 Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your cieled houses, and this house lie waste?

5 Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.

Haggai 1:3-5

7 Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh!

8 Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire.

9 And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire.

Matthew 18:7-9

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

Matthew 23:23

Better is a poor and a wise child than an old and foolish king,  
who will no more be admonished.

Ecclesiastes 4:13

Better is an handful with quietness, than both the hands full  
with travail and vexation of spirit.

Ecclesiastes 4:6

A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.

Proverbs 22:1

30 I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving.

31 This also shall please the Lord better than an ox or bullock that hath horns and hoofs.

32 The humble shall see this, and be glad: and your heart shall live that seek God.

Psalm 69:30-32

12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

Colossians 3:12-14



8 It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man.

9 It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in princes.

Psalm 118:8-9

Prepare thy work without, and make it fit for thyself in the field; and afterwards build thine house.

Proverbs 24:27

A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband: but she that  
maketh ashamed is as rottenness in his bones.

Proverbs 12:4

Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.

Hebrews 13:9

Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;  
And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself  
for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.  
But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be  
once named among you, as becometh saints;  
Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not  
convenient: but rather giving of thanks.  
For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor  
covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom  
of Christ and of God.  
Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things  
cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.  
Be not ye therefore partakers with them.

Ephesians 5:1-7

Judge not, that ye be not judged.

For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.

And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?

Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye?

Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.

Matthew 7:1-5

A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth.

It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to go to the house of feasting: for that is the end of all men; and the living will lay it to his heart.

Sorrow is better than laughter: for by the sadness of the countenance the heart is made better.

The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning; but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth.

It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools.

For as the crackling of thorns under a pot, so is the laughter of the fool: this also is vanity.

Ecclesiastes 7:1-6

Better is little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble therewith.

Proverbs 15:16

Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues without right.

Proverbs 16:8



The fear of the Lord tendeth to life: and he that hath it shall abide satisfied; he shall not be visited with evil.

Proverbs 19:23

And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

Genesis 2:18

Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour.

For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone?

And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

There is nothing better for a man, than that he should eat and drink, and that he should make his soul enjoy good in his labour. This also I saw, that it was from the hand of God.

Ecclesiastes 2:24

Wherefore I perceive that there is nothing better, than that a man should rejoice in his own works; for that is his portion: for who shall bring him to see what shall be after him?

Ecclesiastes 3:22

Put not forth thyself in the presence of the king, and stand not in the place of great men:

For better it is that it be said unto thee, Come up hither; than that thou shouldest be put lower in the presence of the prince whom thine eyes have seen.

Proverbs 25:6-7

Thine own friend, and thy father's friend, forsake not; neither go into thy brother's house in the day of thy calamity: for better is a neighbour that is near than a brother far off.

Proverbs 27:10

Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.

Ecclesiastes 7:8

For to him that is joined to all the living there is hope: for a living dog is better than a dead lion.

Ecclesiastes 9:4



If the iron be blunt, and he do not whet the edge, then must he put to more strength: but wisdom is profitable to direct.

Ecclesiastes 10:10

I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Acts 20:35

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