



GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH

THE MOST IMPORTANT CHOICE YOU WILL EVER MAKE

Written by Pastor Kyle Widrick
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There are many important choices in life: to marry or not to marry, who to marry, what career to pursue, where to live, and where to spend our time are some of the bigger ones. But which is the most important? It is clear that some choices are more important than others. For instance who to marry vs. what to have for dinner tonight don't really compare in importance. Or, what career to pursue vs. what movie to watch this weekend. I think we all get it. Some of our choices in this life are far more important than others.

But although there are some important choices given above, none of those choices is as important as the choice of where we will spend eternity. Yes, eternity! Now, eternity is a very long time, forever with no end. We will all live forever, just not the way we view life now. We will either spend eternity with God in a place known as Heaven or we will spend eternity separated from God in a place known as Hell.

Yes, there is a real Heaven and a real Hell. Our choices while here on earth determine where we will spend eternity. The Bible is full of references about this choice each of us must make. Look at what Jesus said in Matthew 7:

“Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.”

FURTHER REFLECTION

When Jesus says enter He is speaking of a decision to enter into a life that He has just described in the previous chapters, or, not to enter that life. The stakes are high: life or destruction. There are only two choices to make and only two possible outcomes: life or destruction. In our world we have somehow come up with all kinds of other choices when in reality there are only two.

God knows that we need to make a choice. He doesn't hide this fact. He speaks of it often in the Bible. He doesn't try to twist our arms or push us into a quick choice either. He clearly states over and over again that a choice must be made and goes to great lengths to explain the results of either choice and what one can expect when a choice is made.

Many of us would rather not be bothered by making such a choice or taking on the effort to research and consider it. Avoiding the choice is dangerous at best but most often deadly. You see, no choice is a choice not to enter into the life that Jesus was calling us to. Avoiding the choice to research more is dangerous because we don't know when our days on this earth are finished.

We all must choose: enter by the narrow gate of Jesus and walk the narrow road with Him that leads to abundant life, or, go the way of the world by walking through the wide gate and walking on the broad road that leads to eternal destruction. The choice is entirely yours. No one can make it for you and no one can make it with you. It is between you and God. To steal a line from a popular movie: "Choose wisely!"

In Further Reflection there are several scripture passages that give further information about this choice, the consequences of this choice, and what to expect after your choice. It would be wise to take the time to read these passages and give them serious consideration. Your eternal destiny hangs in the balance.

Matthew 7:13-14
Luke 9:23-26
Hebrews 9:27-28
Romans 14:9-12
Galatians 6:7-8
Galatians 5:16-26
1 Corinthians 6:9-11
1 Corinthians 9:24-27
Matthew 25
John 3:16-21
Romans 10:9-13
Romans 1:18-32
Luke 23:39-43