Making Tough Decisions

Greg Kline · 1 Kings 22:1–38

INTRODUCTION

- Hard work is easy, but making decisions that are tough is hard.
- Some of us like figuring out problems, figuring out dilemmas, but not when it's truly personal.
- They had to decide, what does God possibly want from me in this circumstance?

1 Inquire First for the Word of the Lord

1 Kings 22:5–8; 1 Kings 22:13–17

- Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, inquire first for the word of the Lord.
- Is there not here another prophet of the Lord of whom we may inquire?
- Mekah says, As the Lord lives, what the Lord says to me, that I will speak.
- He says, I will only speak what the Lord speaks. I don't care about the king's opinion.

2 God's Will Is Always Accomplished

1 Kings 22:30–38

- And what is Micaiah's message? Do not go to war. Why? There is a disaster waiting for you.
- Why is there disaster waiting for Ahab? The evil he was constantly doing before the Lord.
- And we know God's will is always accomplished.
- But a certain man drew his bow at random and struck the king of Israel between the scale armor and the breastplate.

3 Trust His Way as Best

- Right off the bat, we have to figure out what does God think about this decision. What is the will of the Lord?
- Equally easy to say, but difficult to put into practice is the idea that I have to trust his way as best.
- Ahab died, just as Mekaiah told him, and it was all out of their ignorance and refusal to do just what God said.
- Making tough decisions is hard for me because, like Ahab, I either felt feel unfairly oppressed, or I just really want something.

4 Don't Settle for Yes Men

1 Kings 12:6–10

- 400 prophets didn't make it right.
- Any evaluation of what God's word is based on numbers is wrong.
- The problem with Rehabam is not that he didn't get good advice. The question is, will I choose it?

- He went with his friends, who, just like the 400 prophets did for Ahab, told Rehoboam exactly what he already wanted to hear.

5 Ask, Seek, Knock

Matthew 7:7–11

- Ask, and it will be given to you. Seek, and you will find. Knock and it will be opened to you.
- How much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him.
- That does not say you will get exactly what you wanted. But God has promised us our needs, albeit not our greeds.
- We have to be willing to say, whatever God says goes, because I know his way is best.

6 God Does Care

- Sometimes we don't like God's way even when we seek it, even when we find it. Because we think our way is better.
- There is no scripture that teaches God doesn't care about you. There is no scripture that says this problem is too small for God.
- But sometimes we act like God doesn't care.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Please don't ever leave and live a single day thinking God doesn't care for you. That when you make a tough decision, that God doesn't care.**

MY NOTES