



# The Key to Living in Victory: It Starts With a Choice

## The Key to Living in Victory: It Starts With a Choice Leader's Notes

### I. The sovereign hand of God.

- Some say:
  - God makes all the decisions for each person.
  - You must convince God to choose good things for you.
  - You must live right, keep the Ten Commandments, do everything right, attend church regularly or some other feat of moral strength to get God to hear and answer your prayers.
  - If someone doesn't get God's help, they must have sin in their lives.
- Many "Christian doctrines" are someone's opinion of how God operates based on human observation or experience.
- The woman caught in adultery had sin in her life.
  - The religious leaders wanted to trap Jesus.
  - John 8:7, *"Let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!"* (NLT).
  - John 8:10-11, *"Where are your accusers? Didn't even one of them condemn you?" 'No, Lord,' she said. And Jesus said, 'Neither do I. Go and sin no more'"* (NLT).
  - God's love protected her from receiving the punishment she deserved.

### II. The result of God's love for us.

- God's love keeps us from receiving the punishment and death that we deserve.
- Our "right living" does not make God protect or save us.



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- God finished all He needed to do for us when Jesus died on the cross for the sins of the world and redeemed man back to God.
- It's up to each man and woman to choose to obey God's instructions and live blessed, or to suffer the curse and die.
  - Deuteronomy 30:19-20, *"Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live! You can make this choice by loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and committing yourself firmly to him. This is the key to your life. And if you love and obey the Lord, you will live long in the land the Lord swore to give your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob"* (NLT).
- Christians wonder why God doesn't heal them, prosper them or give them the benefits of the promises.
  - These blessings are our choice.
- You get the blessings from God by reading and studying His Word, and by believing and obeying what you read.
- It takes time and training for us to learn to use the tools and skills God has given.

### III. The believer has a huge responsibility.

- The freedom to make a choice is a privilege reserved only for beings in God's class.
- Because they are created in the likeness of God, only human beings have the God-given privilege of choice.
- Religion teaches that we are not to make choices.
- The truth is that God made us, in the power of Jesus, free to choose our destiny.



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- We have the power to think for ourselves—to choose our own thoughts.
  - Philippians 4:8, “*And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise*” (NLT).
- God will tell you His will for your life, but He will never force it on you.
- The mind that is dominated by worry, fear and care is not choosing life and blessings.
- We have the right to choose our thoughts, our words and our actions.
  - John 8:31-32, “*You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free*” (NLT).
- If we continue to study Jesus’ Word, we will be like Him, and we will be free...free from sin, free to choose God’s way, free to live a successful life.
- The Holy Spirit will begin to reveal to you how to think, how to live and how to speak in agreement with the choices you make, choices that agree with God’s Word.
- You have the right to choose whether or not to accept Jesus’ authority and live in it.
- Choose life and blessings!

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### Prayer of Confession

*Thank You, Father, that You have completed the work for me to have the life You prepared. I choose life. I choose blessings. I choose to read and study Your Word to learn more of Your plan. I choose to receive what You have given and obey Your Word to live a successful life in Christ.*

*In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.*

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