

## Make A Choice - Zanga Schutte, September 24, 2023

Are we going to choose, "The Way The Truth And The Life" or . . .

Sooner or Later we are going to have to choose; **Follow Jesus**

**Joshua 24:15 NIV** But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve . . . But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD ."

### Following Jesus

**5 Points:** - **Commitment** - **Determination** - **Perseverance** - **Grit** - **Victory**

**1. Commitment** - True commitment is, "I have decided to follow Christ, no matter what **comes against me, who opposes me, I will be committed to Jesus** as long as **I live.**"

**Proverbs 16:3 NIV** **Commit to the Lord** whatever you do, and **he will establish your plans.**

**Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV** <sup>5</sup> **Trust in the Lord** with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; <sup>6</sup> **in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.**

Notes: When we have an important decision to make, we sometimes feel that we can't trust anyone—even God. But God knows the best path for us. We should listen to and accept correction from God's Word and wise counselors. Bring our decisions to God in prayer, use the Bible as our guide, and then follow God's leading. He will direct our paths by both guiding and protecting us.

**2. Determination** - The word determined means to be **decided, resolved and settled.** To be a **determined Christian** is to be **resolved and settled as a Christ-like** believer of God.

David's Determination **1 Samuel 17:32, 33, 36, 37 NIV** <sup>32</sup> David said to Saul, "**Let no one lose heart** on account of this Philistine; **your servant will go and fight him.**" <sup>33</sup> Saul replied, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a young man, and he has been a warrior from his youth."

<sup>36</sup> **Your servant** has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because **he has defied the armies of the living God.** <sup>37</sup> The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will **rescue me** from the hand of this Philistine." Saul said to David, "Go, and the Lord be with you."

**3. Perseverance** - Persistence in doing something **despite difficulty . . . Continued effort** to do or achieve something despite **difficulties, failure, or opposition...**

**James 1:12 NIV** Blessed is the one who **perseveres under trial** because, having **stood the test,** that person will **receive the crown of life** that the Lord has **promised** to those **who love him.**

**2 Timothy 4:7 NIV** I have **fought the good fight,** I have **finished the race,** I have **kept the faith.**

**Philippians 4:13 NASB** I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

**4. Grit** - Grit is a personality trait possessed by individuals who **demonstrate passion and perseverance toward a goal** despite being confronted by significant **obstacles and distractions.**

In The Garden - **Mark 14:36 NIV** "Abba , Father," he said, "**everything is possible for you.** Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."

Jesus on the Cross - **Luke 23:34 KJV** Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.

### 5. Victory

**1 Corinthians 15:57 & 58 NIV** <sup>57</sup> But thanks be to God! He gives us **the victory** through our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>58</sup> Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, **stand firm.** Let **nothing move you.** Always give yourselves **fully to the work of the Lord,** because you know that **your labor in the Lord is not in vain.**

**In Closing:** **Luke 1:37 NIV** "For no word from God will **ever fail.**"

**Isaiah 40:8 NIV** The grass withers and the flowers fall, **but the word of our God endures forever.**

"Choose Today" "Follow Jesus" Amen.