

MYCHOICES=MY	LIFE
The decisions we make today	_ the lives we have in the future.
The challenge we face is:	
• We don't make great decisions when they're Commit everything you do to the Lord. Trust him to help you do it, and	
We have to make up our mind for what	we will do
I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I do to do what is right, but I can't. I want to do what is good, but I don't. I anyway. Romans 7:15, 18-19 (NLT)	
I've made up my mind to	
Many people find:  ● Following Jesus is	
Following Jesus requires	<u>_</u> .
Following Jesus exposes just how	l am.

Live freely, animated and motivated by God's Spirit. Then you won't feed the compulsions of selfishness. For there is a root of sinful self-interest in us that is at odds with a free spirit, just as the free spirit is incompatible with selfishness. These two ways of life are contrary to each other, so that you cannot live at times one way and at times another way according to how you feel on any given day. Why don't you choose (Make up your mind) to be led by the Spirit and so escape the erratic compulsions of a law-dominated existence? Galatians 5:16-18 (MSG)

But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control...

Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT)

•	God's Spirit is producing fruit in the lives of _	
•	When fruit is lacking in our life it's not a lack	of power but a lac
	of power.	

I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts away every branch of mine that doesn't produce fruit. But he trims clean every branch that does produce fruit, so that it will produce even more fruit. You are already clean because of what I have said to you. Stay joined to me, and I will stay joined to you. Just as a branch cannot produce fruit unless it stays joined to the vine, you cannot produce fruit unless you stay joined to me. I am the vine, and you are the branches. If you stay joined to me, and I stay joined to you, then you will produce lots of fruit. But you cannot do anything without me. John 15:1-5 (CEV)

Whoever abides in me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:5 (ESV)

Staying with Jesus means:	
■ I receive Jesus as my of life.  Just as a branch cannot produce fruit unless it stays joined to the vine, you cannot produce fruit unless you stay oined to me. John 15:4	
I am the bread of life; whoever comes to John 6:35	me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst."
Action Step: Be open to	Jesus has for you.
Peter replied, "Lord, to whom would we	of Jesus in my life. go? You have the words that give eternal life. John 6:68 (NLT)
But if you <u>stay in me</u> and <u>obey my comm</u> (TLB)	ands, you may ask any request you like, and it will be granted! John 15:7
Action Step:	to Jesus' words for
• I'm staying "I have loved you even as the Father has	with Jesus. loved me. Remain in my love. John 15:9 (NLT)
Action Step: Spend time	Jesus how much you love Him.
	of my life.  ar much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. John 15:8
Action Step: Take	of the fruit in your life.
externally. I am the true vine, and my Father is the v	experience the internally and rinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, prunes, that it may bear more fruit. John 15:1–2

## TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

in you right now.

## Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

· What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?

Action Step: Be aware of what is God

- What does it mean to you to make up your mind now for what you will do later? Is there an area in your life that you need to do this?
- Read all of John 15:1-9; What stands out most to you in this scripture?
- Why does God want to produce fruit in our lives?
- In a sentence, what does it mean to you to "Stay with Jesus"?
- How is Jesus your source of life? What does it mean to be open to all Jesus has for us?
- How does Jesus' words give us life? Do you allow His words to give you life? Explain.
- · How do we stay in love with Jesus? What does that mean?
- Why is "Fruit" in our life the purpose of our life? What does it mean for God to receive the glory of our life? How are you doing with God's fruit being developed in your life?
- Is there anything God is pruning in your life? (Anything being cut away so that more fruit can develop)

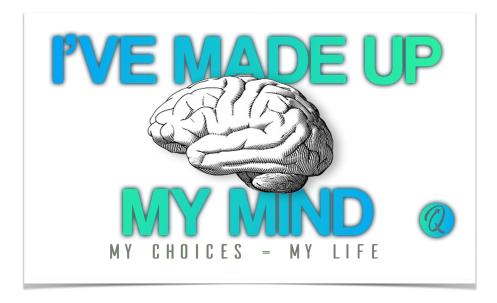
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## Coming up:









## "To Stay with Jesus"

