



GRACE PERIOD, PART 2

SEPTEMBER 15, 2019

How to Make Decisions Better

¹⁸ When Jesus saw the crowd around him, he instructed his disciples to cross to the other side of the lake.

¹⁹ Then one of the teachers of religious law said to him, “Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go.”

²⁰ But Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens to live in, and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place even to lay his head.”

²¹ Another of his disciples said, “Lord, first let me return home and bury my father.”

²² But Jesus told him, “Follow me now. Let the spiritually dead bury their own dead.”

1. TO MAKE DECISIONS BETTER, MAKE THEM _____.

³² *The teacher of religious law replied, “Well said, Teacher. You have spoken the truth by saying that there is only one God and no other. ³³ And I know it is important to love him with all my heart and all my understanding and all my strength, and to love my neighbor as myself. This is more important than to offer all of the burnt offerings and sacrifices required in the law.”*

³⁴ *Realizing how much the man understood, Jesus said to him, “You are not far from the Kingdom of God.” Mark 12:32–34*

³⁸ *Jesus also taught: “Beware of these teachers of religious law! For they like to parade around in flowing robes and receive respectful greetings as they walk in the marketplaces. ³⁹ And how they love the seats of honor in the synagogues and the head table at banquets. Mark 12:38–39*

2. JESUS OFFERS HIS FOLLOWERS _____.

¹³ As my vision continued that night, I saw someone like a son of man coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient One and was led into his presence. ¹⁴ He was given authority, honor, and sovereignty over all the nations of the world, so that people of every race and nation and language would obey him. His rule is eternal—it will never end. His kingdom will never be destroyed.
Daniel 7: 13–14

**When I avoid acting on a decision, why?
What assurance do I need to give me confidence?**

3. FOLLOWING JESUS CLARIFIES OUR _____.

⁵ So the Pharisees and teachers of religious law asked him, “Why don’t your disciples follow our age-old tradition?”

⁶ Jesus replied, “You hypocrites! ... ¹¹ you say it is all right for people to say to their parents, ‘Sorry, I can’t help you. For I have vowed to give to God what I would have given to you.’ ¹² In this way, you let them disregard their needy parents. ¹³ And so you cancel the word of God in order to hand down your own tradition.
Mark 7:5,6,11–13

²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother standing there beside the disciple he loved, he said to her, “Dear woman, here is your son.”
²⁷ And he said to this disciple, “Here is your mother.”
John 19:26-27

**What makes this important to me?
Which of my priorities align best with Jesus’?
Which aligns least well? Is it too high now, or too low?**