

“Every decision leads in a direction, and every direction leads to a destination.”  
(Rev. Ron Mullings)

### I. What Are My Principles?

### II. What Is My Purpose in Life?

### III. What Are My Priorities?

### IV. Wise Decisions Are Saturated with Prayer

### V. Follow The Peace of God (Philippians 4:6-7)

Uncertainty and change bring a measure of uneasiness. However, when our decisions are directed by the Lord, we can expect peace above all circumstances.

Do I sense God's peace in this decision?

### VI. What Does Precedent Say about This Decision? (1 Corinthians 10:6, 11)

What can I learn from the past?

“The farther backward you can look, the farther forward you are likely to see.” – Winston Churchill

Have I been in this situation previously? If so, what did I do right? What did I do wrong?

If I can't learn from previous mistakes and successes, wise decisions aren't likely.

### VII. What Is the Perspective of Counsel?

There are some things I tend to overlook; things I miss. I have blind spots.

In ignorance we deny our blind spots; when we don't know *that we don't know*.

- Ignorance is defeated when confronted through learning and community.

Sometimes we deny blind spots because of pride. (Proverbs 11:2, 13:10, 29:23, Obadiah 1:3)

- Pride is defeated spiritually by saturating prayer; and defeated humanly by exposure to more successful environments.

Blind spots are revealed & reduced through counsel. (Proverbs 11:14, 13:10, 15:22, 24:6)

How should I choose counselors?

- Consider counselors related to the field of the decision.
- Consider the counsel of elders above the counsel of peers.
- Consider counselors who have my best interest at heart.
- Consider counselors who are close and constant.

### VIII. How Does This Decision Affect People around Me?

Romans 14:7 (NKJV) For none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself.

How will my decision affect important people around me?

The tragedy of many American families is that too many husbands, fathers, wives & mothers make decisions as if they were single, as if no one else depends on them.

Wise decisions continually consider all important parties involved.

### IX. Patience

James 1:4 (NKJV) But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

Never make a negative decision in the low time. Never make your most important decisions when you are in your worst moods. Wait. Be patient. The storm will pass. The spring will come.  
*(Robert H. Schuller)*

Most decisions don't have to be immediate. Take time to make the wisest decision.

### X. Process

"Wow, this is really a lot to consider. Should I do this always?"

With practice, these tasks become our habits, and we process them easier & quicker.

These practices are increasingly important as the impact of the decision increases. Does this decision have a long-lasting impact? Does this decision impact many people?

If we do a wrong thing, in the wrong way, it will come out wrong.

If we do a right thing, but in the wrong way, it will come out wrong.

If we do a wrong thing, but attempt it in a right way, it will still come out wrong.

The only way to have things come out right is to do the right thing in the right way.

*Rev. David Kuhtenia*

Once the decision is made, how will I implement it? Who should know what, when and how?

- Who should know? Who should know first? And after that?
- What should they know?
- When should they be informed?
- How should I tell them?

Wise decisions are a process.