

Name:



Guidance for Global Mission

Updated May 2023

1. How do you make small decisions? How do you decide on a restaurant? How do you make big decisions? How did you decide what to study? Why did you join today?

2. What are some ways Christians speak about God guiding us? How do you think Christians should make decisions?

3. How significantly do your life plans differ from your non-Christian friends?



4. What can we learn about guidance from just one passage: Romans 12:1-9?

(cont. next page)

Romans 12:1-9 (ESV)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

Questions

- a) What should motivate our decisions?

- b) How does viewing our lives as a ‘living sacrifice’ change our decisions?

- c) How is our mind renewed and how should that change our decisions?
Does Philippians 1:9—11, Colossians 1:9-10, and 2 Timothy 3:14-17 help?

- d) What do we learn about God’s will from Genesis 12:1-4, Matthew 28:16-20, Galatians 3:7-9, Revelation 7:9-10? From Romans 12:9 and Ephesians 4:11-16? How does this help us test our decisions?

- e) How should we think of the world (the situation/our context) when making decisions?

- f) How should we think of ourselves when making decisions?

- g) What part might others play in my decision making?

5. Choose and discuss two or three of the following statements:

- a. *Love God and do whatever you please.*
- b. *Play to your strengths/ gifts.*
- c. *I have freedom to make decisions in Jesus.*
- d. *The missional priority is reaching the unreached.*
- e. *Everyone called to Christ is commissioned for the sake of all nations.*
- f. *What the heart loves, the will chooses, and the mind justifies.*
- g. *If you don't have a plan for your life, that vacuum will get filled.*
- h. *I could change my plans to meet needs of people with less gospel access or resources.*
- i. *God's priorities are my priorities. I share his heart, his mind, his hands for mission.*
- j. *Mission should be the default. Why wouldn't I go!?*
- k. *I could change my plans so that more people hear about Jesus.*
- l. *We must not rob God of his glory with too small a vision.*
- m. *If you're not willing to go, you're not qualified to stay.*
- n. *I've chosen the hardest + wisest course for sustainable sacrifice.*
- o. *I don't feel called.*
- p. *I have a noble desire for global mission...*
- q. *I can't go because of (insert reason here)*
- r. *... but I'm not qualified for global mission.*
- s. *If you can't go, you must send.*
- t. *Guilt is not a good reason to make decisions.*

6. Decide: What needs to change about your plans? What's your next step for global mission?