

## Making smarter choices

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Ephesians 5:15-21

<sup>15</sup> Be very careful how you live; not as unwise but as wise, <sup>16</sup> making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup> Therefore do not be foolish, but understand the Lord's will

**To make smart choices I need...**

**...the . . . . . of God the Father 5:15-17**

God's will for my life is:

. . . . . 2 Peter 3:9  
. . . . . Galatians 1:4  
. . . . . 1 Thess 4:3-8  
. . . . . 1 Thess 5:18  
. . . . . 1 Peter 2:13-17

<sup>18</sup> Do not get drunk with alcohol, because that is degrading, but be filled with the Spirit,

**...the . . . . . of God the Spirit 5:18**

Evidence of a Spirit-filled life:

. . . . . Matthew 4:1  
. . . . . Luke 4:14-15  
. . . . . Luke 10:21  
. . . . . Acts 10:38

<sup>19</sup> speaking to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord from your heart. <sup>20</sup> giving thanks at all times and in all circumstances, to God the Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**...to . . . . . with God's people 5:19-20**

A+ worship involves:

. . . . . Thanks for my past  
. . . . . Guiding my present  
. . . . . Optimist future  
. . . . . Focus on God, not me  
. . . . . Universal perspective

**...to . . . . . God the Son 5:21**

Jesus Christ is:

. . . . . of the Lord's army. Josh.5:14  
. . . . . of all the earth. Luke 12:5  
The . . . . . One of God. Mark 1:24

<sup>21</sup> Submit to one another out of fear of Christ.

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## My prayer priorities for this week

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### For personal reflection and discussion starters

1. What are the three smartest choices you have ever made?
2. Why is a good decision, good; or why is a bad decision, bad?
3. Briefly review God's will for your life. Why do you think God's will is so broad and so general?
4. Which aspect of God's will do you find most appealing, and why?
5. Briefly review Jesus' evidence of a Spirit-filled life. Which of these most closely resembles your past? ...your present? ...and what you would like your future to look like? (Take time to listen)
6. Briefly review the 5 "A..." words of worship. Which is easiest? Which is hardest? Which of these gives you the most blessing as you do it?
7. Read v19-20. Why should we use Scripture, song, and thanks, in our communication?
8. Read v21. Submission to another person is often difficult. Why should submission to a fellow-believer be a joy? Why do you think this Scripture links submission to other with fear of Christ?
9. List some ways we can submit to one another this week.