



## Not Every Choice is Right, but Every Choice Teaches

Luke 23:21 NLT - But they kept shouting, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

Today, I want us to understand something deeply: God can use both our right and our wrong choices to shape us—but wisdom teaches us to choose better. When we come to the table of the Lord, we don't come pretending; we come honestly. Because the truth is, humanity chose sin, leaders chose injustice, **the crowd cried out, "Crucify Him," and even the disciples chose fear and denial.** Yet, in the middle of all these choices, God still fulfilled His purpose.

And that brings us to Peter. Peter made his own choice—he denied Jesus, not once, but three times. It was a wrong choice, but it did not stop God's plan for his life. What Peter went through did not destroy him; it taught him, shaped him, and prepared him.

And that is where we begin today: Not every choice is right... But every choice teaches. There were those who made their own choices, and those choices led to significant lessons that shaped their journey, such as:

### **1. David made a wrong choice, and it taught him a deep and lasting lesson.**

2 Samuel 11:1 NLT - In the spring of the year, when kings normally go out to war, David sent Joab and the Israelite army to fight the Ammonites. They destroyed the Ammonite army and laid siege to the city of Rabbah. However, David stayed behind in Jerusalem.

King David stays in Jerusalem when his army goes to battle. From his roof, he sees Bathsheba, desires her, and sleeps with her, even though she is married to Uriah. When she becomes pregnant, David tries to cover it up by bringing Uriah home, but when that fails, he arranges for Uriah to be placed in battle where he is killed. Afterward, David takes Bathsheba as his wife.

- David made a wrong choice with Bathsheba
- One decision led to sin, deception, and consequences

But through it all, David learned a powerful lesson:

- Repentance
- Humility
- Dependence on God - **David was not destroyed - he was shaped.** Psalm 51:17 - "The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God."

**2. Peter made a wrong decision, and it became a powerful lesson that transformed him.** Luke 22:56-58 NLT - A servant girl noticed him in the firelight and began staring at him. Finally she said, "This man was one of Jesus' followers!" [57] But Peter denied it. "Woman," he said, "I don't even know him!" [58] After a while someone else looked at him and said, "You must be one of them!" "No, man, I'm not!" Peter retorted.

While Jesus was being questioned, Peter was sitting among others near a fire. A servant girl recognized him as one of Jesus' followers, but Peter denied knowing Jesus. Soon after, another person made the same claim, and Peter again denied it.

- Peter denied Jesus three times
- Fear caused him to make the wrong choice

But in the midst of it, Peter learned a valuable lesson:

- Brokenness
- Restoration
- Boldness - The same Peter later preached with power. Psalm 23:3 - "He restores my soul. He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name."
- **David made a wrong choice and learned repentance.**
- **Peter made a wrong choice and learned restoration.**

And both prove: not every choice is right... but every choice teaches.

**3. The Table calls us to repentance** Psalm 51:1-19 NKJV - Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions. [2] Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin. [3] For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin is always before me. [4] Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight- That You may be found just when You speak, And blameless when You judge. [5] Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, And in sin my mother conceived me. [6] Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom. [7] Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. [8] Make me hear joy and gladness, That the bones You have broken may rejoice. [9] Hide Your face from my sins, And blot out all my iniquities. [10] Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. [11] Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. [12] Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me by Your generous Spirit. [13] Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners shall be converted to You. [14] Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, The God of my salvation, And my tongue shall sing aloud of Your righteousness. [15] O Lord, open my lips, And my mouth shall show forth Your praise. [16] For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. [17] The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart- These, O God, You will not despise. [18] Do good in Your good pleasure to Zion; Build the walls of Jerusalem. [19] Then You shall be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, With burnt offering and whole burnt offering; Then they shall offer bulls on Your altar.

At the Lord's Table:

- We examine ourselves
- We acknowledge our wrong choices
- We turn back to God

**The table is a place of repentance - not perfection.**