

NORTH HILLS NOTES

Choose Life!

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*"I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days." Deuteronomy 30:19-20**

- Will and choice are central to what defines us as human: we are our choices—past, present, and future.

HOW WE LOSE OUR CHOICE

A. We are SEDUCED.

"So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate." Genesis 3:6

"One is tempted by one's own desire, being lured and enticed by it; then, when that desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and that sin, when it is fully grown, gives birth to death. Do not be deceived, my beloved." James 1:14-16

"Desire without knowledge is not good." Proverbs 19:2

B. We follow INCLINATION AND IMPULSE rather than DUTY.

"In those days there was no king in Israel; all the people did what was right in their own eyes." Judges 17:6

"Get her for me, because she pleases me." Judges 14:3

C. We live HABITUALLY rather than INTENTIONALLY.

"The Lord saw that the wickedness of humankind was great in the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil continually." Genesis 6:5

D. We find ourselves living in a predicament WE WOULD NOT HAVE CHOSEN.

"For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. . . . Who will rescue me from this body of death?" Romans 7:19, 24

HOW WE REGAIN OUR CHOICE

A. We acknowledge the limits of our KNOWLEDGE.

"There is a way that seems right to a person, but its end is the way to death." Proverbs 14:12

"For we know only in part." I Corinthians. 13:9

B. We give ourselves FULLY AND WHOLEHEARTEDLY TO GOD.

"Loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him" Deuteronomy 30:20

C. Each choice is made by first SURRENDERING IT TO GOD.

"Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven." Matthew 6:10

**all scripture references are from the New Revised Standard Version.*

Continued on back