

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”
John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a

MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK



Kyle & Amanda Briar | Romania

PRAY

- For the Ukrainian families that are returning to the Ukraine or other parts of Europe.
- For the process of getting our children long term residency to go smoothly.
- Please pray for us to learn the language quickly.
- Pray for a building in the local Roma community that will allow us to minister and share the Gospel while also allowing us to feed and teach the children.



Handout: 08/14/22

Study Date: 08/21/22

Faithful In Preparation

Circumspect comes from two Latin words which mean “looking around.” The Greek word carries the idea of precision and accuracy. “See that you walk carefully, with exactness” is the meaning. The opposite would be walking carelessly and without proper guidance and forethought. We cannot leave the Christian life to chance. We must make wise decisions and seek to do the will of God. Paul presented several reasons why we should be accurate and careful in our walk.

It is a mark of wisdom (v. 15). Only a fool drifts with the wind and tide. A wise man marks out his course, sets his sails, and guides the rudder until he reaches his destination. When a man wants to build a house, he first draws his plans so he knows what he is doing. Yet, how many Christians plan their days so that they use their opportunities wisely? True, we cannot know what a day may bring forth (James 4:13–17). But it is also true that a planned life can better deal with unexpected events. Someone said, “When the pilot does not know what port he is heading for, no wind is the right wind.”

Life is short (v. 16a). Our English word opportunity comes from the Latin and means “toward the port.” It suggests a ship taking advantage of the wind and tide to arrive safely in the harbor. The brevity of life is a strong argument for making the best use of the opportunities God gives us.

The days are evil (v. 16b). In Paul’s time, this meant that Roman persecution was on the way (1 Peter 4:12–19). How foolish to waste opportunities to win the lost when soon those opportunities might be taken away by the advances of sin in society!

God has given us a mind (v. 17a). “Understanding” suggests using our minds to discover and do the will of God. Too many Christians have the idea that discovering God’s will is a mystical experience that rules out clear thinking. But this idea is wrong—and dangerous. We discover the will of God as He transforms the mind (Rom. 12:1–2); and this transformation is the result of the Word of God, prayer, meditation, and worship. If God gave you a mind, then He expects you to use it. This means that learning His will involves gathering facts, examining them, weighing them, and praying for His wisdom (James 1:5).

God has a plan for our lives (v. 17b). Paul alluded to this plan (Eph. 2:10). If God saved me, He has a purpose for my life, and I should discover that purpose and then guide my life accordingly. He reveals His plan through His Word (Col. 1:9–10), His Spirit in our hearts (Col. 3:15), and the working of circumstances (Rom. 8:28). The Christian can walk carefully and accurately because he knows what God wants him to do.

Source: Bible Exposition Commentary by Warren Wiersbe

KEY VERSE

Ephesians 5:17 (NKJV)

Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Ephesians 5:15-17; Colossians 1:9-14

Introduction

1. What is the most important decision you've made? How did you make the decision?
2. How do you determine what God's will is for your life?

Tuesday: John 14:6; Acts 16:29-34; Romans 10:9-13

Decision #1: Establish A Relationship With Christ

3. Do you have a relationship with Christ? If you don't, what are some reasons why? If you do have a relationship with Him, how did you meet Him?
4. How does your decision about Jesus affect all your other decisions?

Wednesday: II Peter 3:18a; John 15:1-17; Revelation 3:20

Decision #1 continued: Grow In Your Relationship with Christ

5. How would you rate your relationship with Christ? Is it growing or is it stagnant? Do you feel close to Him or far apart?
6. What do you do to grow in your relationship with Jesus?

Thursday: Proverbs 18:22; Philippians 4:11,13; II Cor. 6:14

Decision #2: Companion

7. If you are married, how did you decide that your spouse was the companion for you?
8. If you are single and desire to be married, what attributes are you looking for in a spouse? How will you make that decision?
9. What are some advantages to remaining single if you are single? If you are married what are some things you can do to invest in your relationship?

Friday: Ecc. 3:13; Luke 2:49; Galatians 6:4; Psalm 139:14

Decision #3: Career

10. Do you currently enjoy or endure your work? Why do you feel the way that you do?
11. If you have a career, how did you choose the line of work you are in? If you do not yet have a career, how will you decide what career path to choose?
12. What does it mean that you are fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14)? How does the way God made you impact your career decisions?