

## Session 7

**How does God**

**us**

“For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.”  
(Ephesians 2:10, NLT)

Why involve God in the decisions we make?

- God promises to guide us.
  - (Psalm 32:8)
  - (John 10:3–4, 27)
  
- God has a good plan for our lives.
  - (Jeremiah 29:11)
  - (Romans 12:2)
  - (John 10:10, 15)

How does God guide us?

- General will
  - General instruction for marriage, work, money, children, elderly relatives (2 Timothy 3:16; Psalm 119:105, 130–133)
  
- Primary calling
  - To love God
  - To love others
  - To become like Jesus

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- God speaks as you pray (Acts 13:1–3)
- Strong desire to do something
  - “It is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.” (Philippians 2:13)
- Sometimes He guides in more unusual ways
  - Prophecy, for example, Agabus (Acts 11:27–28; 21:10–11)
  - Dreams (Matthew 1:20)
  - Visions/pictures (Acts 16:10)
  - Angels (Genesis 18; Matthew 2:19; Acts 12:7)
  - Audible voice (1 Samuel 3:4–14)
- “... the wise listen to advice.” (Proverbs 12:15)
- “Plans are established by seeking advice.” (Proverbs 20:18)
- Need for testing (1 John 4:1)
  - Is it in line with the Bible?
  - Is it loving? (1 John 4:16)
  - Is it strengthening, encouraging and comforting?  
(1 Corinthians 14:3)
  - Does it bring the peace of God? (Colossians 3:15)

Ultimately, we are responsible for our decisions, but it is a blessing to have others to talk to about the decisions we are making.

- “Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this.” (2 Timothy 2:7)

**“God’s promises  
of guidance were not  
given to save us the  
problem of thinking.”**

**JOHN STOTT**

- “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” (Romans 8:28)
- “In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.” (Proverbs 16:9; Psalm 37:5)
- Sometimes God closes doors. (Acts 16:7)
- Sometimes God opens doors. (1 Corinthians 16:9)
- Sometimes we need to persevere despite the circumstances and trust God.
- Be patient.
- We all make mistakes—God forgives. (Joel 2:25)



