

Another Beautiful Life

Podcast Worksheet

This worksheet is intended to use as a complement to my podcast "Another Beautiful Life." It would benefit you most if you listen to the episode before continuing. Please take some time to be contemplative in your answers. My suggestion is to ask the Holy Spirit to lead you through it before you begin. I'm already praying you hear His voice clearly.

Episode 9 - Crickets: Decisions In The Silence

Sometimes we look to God for direction in a decision we need to make. We are encouraged to do so in His Word that says, "...let your requests be made known to God." And sometimes all we hear back is crickets. What are we supposed to do now?

- 1) Has there been a time in your life when you were seeking God's direction and you heard nothing? Describe that circumstance here:

I confess that I've been known to set out on my own, making decisions without asking my Heavenly Father's opinion. Many things I've done or ventured towards I can honestly say I didn't earnestly seek the Lord's heart and will on it, how He wants things done. I've even forged forward without seeking God's heart because I wanted to do *my* thing, afraid He might have other thoughts and plans...that sounded more like a "no" to me than my "yes".

- 2) Can you think of a situation (or two) where you may not have sought God for direction?

Sometimes, when I do make decisions that 'feel' God-led that eventually get turned upside down, I feel guilty like I did something wrong, or struck out on my own out of my own self-serving motives. Then I feel bad because I can't do it right, or I can't hear His voice correctly. So now I can't trust myself, and it makes me frozen.

- 3) What about you? What do you think when things don't go the way you thought they would?

I shared the story of God’s provisions as I was trying to sell my house. And then His provisions again when I decided not to. Even though I wasn’t getting a sense of His direction in whether or not I sold my house, I believe I’ve come to understand that there are just somethings He doesn’t have a hard and fast opinion on. Not that He doesn’t care about the details of my life. But in both confirmations, He was showing me that whether I chose to sell or to stay - whatever I chose to do - He would make provisions, because He’s a *good* Father.

4) In the silence, what can you believe about God regarding your decision?

Psalm 46:5 confirmed my discovery: “God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved. God will help her when morning dawns.” The fullness of the God-head is in her inner parts, the seat of thoughts and emotions. That’s it! The decisions you make while your purposed determination is to be one with Him are decisions made *with* Him. He is directing your thoughts and intentions. Your heart’s desire is to be making *right* decisions with holiness, fully pleasing to the Lord. He knows that! And He’s in the decision-making process, even if you’re not fully aware of it.

5) Use this space to let God know your heart’s desire and purposed determination with regard to the decisions you must make in your life:

Psalm 139 says that He is always with you, no matter where you go. It says, “If I go...If I ascend...If I take...You are there. *Even there* Your hand shall lead me, Your right hand shall hold me.” This is a promise that even if you step out on your own, or make the wrong decision, He comes with you – whether you’re aware of His presence or not. *Even there* He’s there to lead you and speak truth to you. Isaiah 30:21 reminds us that when we turn to the right or to the left, then our ears shall hear a word behind you saying, “This is the way, walk in it.” This is God’s invitation to step out. Take a step, and *then* He’ll direct you from there.

So, friend, are *you* asking God for or about something and just hearing crickets? I hope this gives you freedom to move forward. Trust the mind, the intellect, He’s given you. Trust the relationship. Trust His perfect character. Trust that He’s not a transactional God, but One who loves His children relentlessly and faithfully - even when we are not. And trust that as you step out in faith *and* in confidence in your relationship, that He’s with you, showing you where to turn to the left or to the right. It’s just that easy.