



# How Do You Know Which Way to Go?

**Insights to  
Making Good Decisions**

**Acts 16:6-10**

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- We've all got decisions before us...
- Choosing
  - ....an opportunity
  - ....about relationships
  - ....about purchases
  - ....about health situations
  - ....about financial stuff

How do you know the right choice?  
How do you know which way to go?

A close-up photograph of a traffic light. The green light is illuminated, while the red and yellow lights are not. The background is a blurred green.

## **Acts 16:6-10**

**6** Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia.

**7** After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them.

**8** So passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas.





## **Acts 16:6-10**

**9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."**

**10 Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them.**

# 1 Faith Lesson

**Desire the will of God  
and seek to know the  
will of God.**

- **I believe this was in Paul's heart and it helped him hear the LORD's voice.**



# 1 Faith Lesson

**Remember how Jesus  
taught us to pray?**

**Our Father...**



# 1 Faith Lesson

## **Your will be done (on earth as it is in Heaven)**

**This is to always be running in our  
minds like our default operating  
system.**

**This is to always be on our lips.  
This is to always be churning in our  
hearts.**



# 1 Faith Lesson

**Jesus:  
“not My will, but Yours  
be done”**

**This is a bloody prayer. Something has  
to die in order for something else to  
live.**

- **This is at the heart of a believer.  
To please God and do His will.**







# **A Few Hindrances to Knowing God's Will**

- Sin distorts your judgment and keeps you from hearing correctly.
  - Will even keep God from hearing.
- Bitterness and unforgiveness defiles you and others and nothing good comes out of this.



# **A Few Hindrances**

- **Strife in your marriage is a big obstacle. (1 Peter 3:7)**
- **Having bad information is a problem. Our enemy is “the father of lies”, a master of deception, a silver-tongued devil**
  - **He specializes in lies, confusion, slander, strife, twisted words, etc.**
  - **There’s a snake in every garden.**

# 1 Faith Lesson

**Desire the  
will of God  
and  
seek to know  
the will of God.**

**(ask, seek, knock)**





# Synchronize

Our desires & plans must be synchronized with the LORD's plans.



- The WORD helps with this.
- Hear what the Spirit says.
- Follow our Shepherd's lead.
  - Be His sheep, not a goat.
- It's getting on the same page. It's getting on God's wavelength.



# 2

## Faith Lesson

# **When God says “NO”, stop!**

- **If God says “no” it’s because He has something better in mind.**

**Acts 16:6-7\***



A traffic light is shown on the left side of the image. The green light at the bottom is illuminated, while the red and yellow lights above it are not. The background is a dark green with a subtle, wavy pattern.

## Acts 16:6-7

6 Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were **forbidden** by the **Holy Spirit** to preach the word in Asia.

7 After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but **the Spirit did not permit them.**

# Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> Missionary Journey





# 2

## Faith Lesson

**God is gracious enough  
to say “No” at times.**

**Psalm 37:23**

**The steps of a good man  
are ordered by the LORD**





# 2

## Faith Lesson

### **How does the LORD communicate His “NO”?**

- **A word spoken**
- **A “check” in your spirit**
- **Opposition / persecution**
- **Circumstances**

**“No” is your clue to keep looking for the “YES”.**

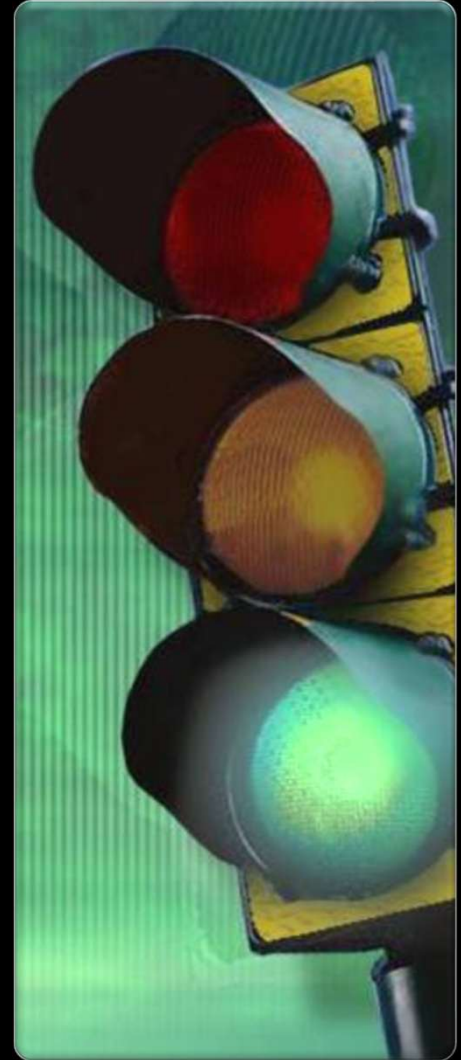


## ***Ephesians 3:20***

**Now to Him who is able to do  
exceedingly abundantly above  
all that we ask or think**

---

- **Jesus is too wise to be wrong and too loving to be unkind.**
- **Remember, you are talking to the ONE who gave His life for you.**



# 3

## Faith Lesson

**Sometimes God throws up the Yellow Light and says "SLOW DOWN".**

- **It's the caution light.**
- **Means to sharpen up, listen up.**
- **Humble yourself.**

**This is when the LORD says, "wait".**



# 3

## Faith Lesson

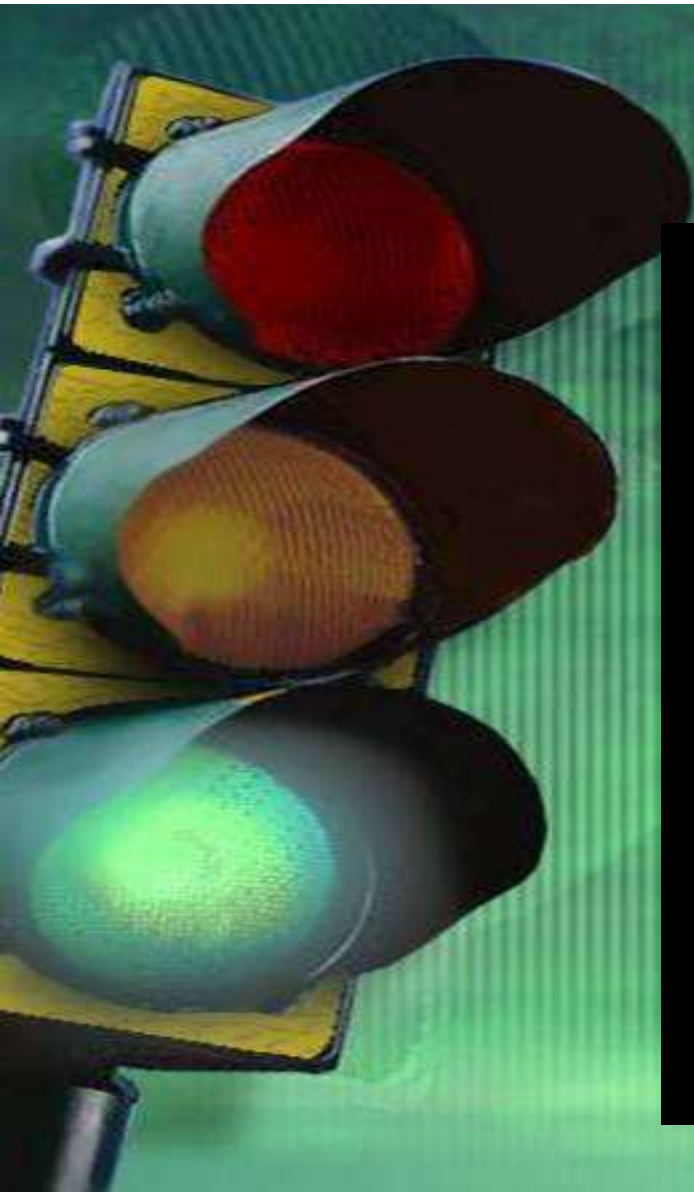
### **Wait**

- **Timing might not be right.**
- **Idea might not be right.**
- **Clarity might be needed.**

**Wait is your cue to  
“intertwine” your life and  
thoughts more closely  
to Jesus.**







**No**

**Slow**

**Go!**

A vertical traffic light with three lenses. The top lens is red, the middle is yellow, and the bottom is green. The green light is currently illuminated, casting a bright green glow. The background is a dark, textured green.

## **Acts 16:8-10**

**8** So passing by Mysia, **they came down to Troas (their waiting place).**

**9** And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

**10** Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them.

# 4

## Faith Lesson

**Notice what they  
did when God's  
"Yes" came.**

**"immediately we sought to  
go to Macedonia"**

**Your obedience is more  
important than you think.**





# Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> Missionary Journey





# 4

## Faith Lesson

**Notice how God's  
"yes" or "go" came:**

### **A Vision**

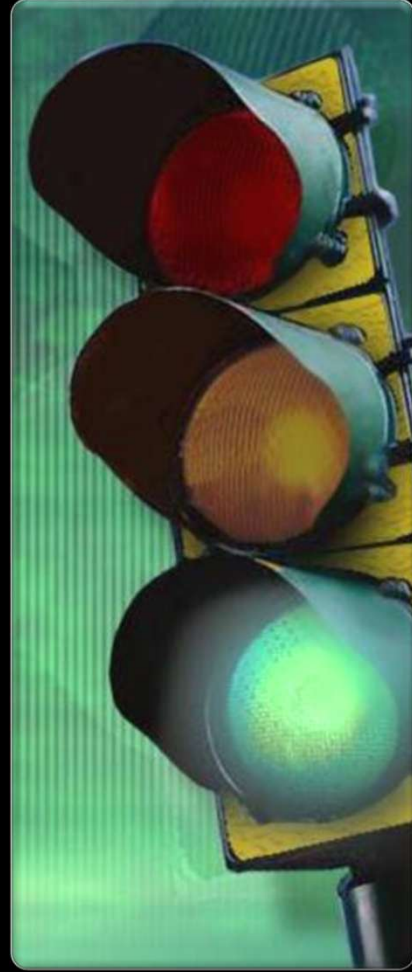
- **Dreams, visions, words of knowledge, intense urging, etc.**
- **You may or may not have supernatural signs, but have faith for them.**



# 5

## Faith Lesson

***Learn to walk  
circumspectly.***



# 5

## Faith Lesson

### Ephesians 5:15

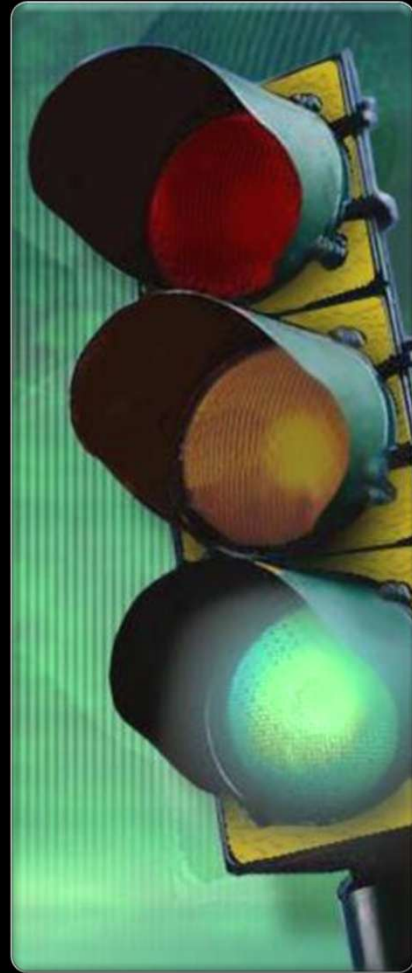
See then that you walk  
**circumspectly**, not as  
fools but as wise

- **Circum** = circle or all around
- **Spect** = to see, to look

**To see in 360 degrees**

**Blind spots**

**How?**



# 6

## Faith Lesson

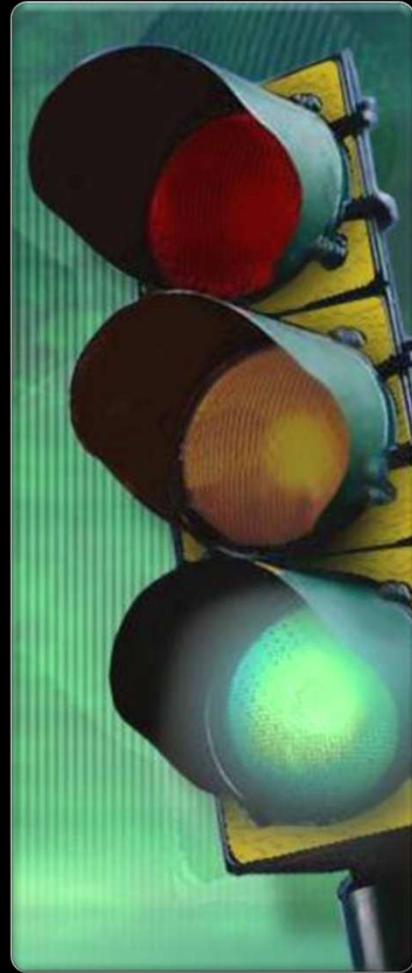
### The Peace Factor

Colossians 3:15a

And let the peace of God  
**rule** in your hearts

➤ **Rule = to act as an umpire,  
to make the call**

**Peace is a must.**







# How Do You Know Which Way to Go?

- Desire & seek the will of God.
- No!
- Slow!
- Go!
- Walk circumspectly
- The Peace Factor

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## **Numbers 6:24-26**

- 24 "The LORD bless you and keep you;**  
**25 The LORD make His face shine upon**  
**you, and be gracious to you;**  
**26 The LORD lift up His countenance**  
**upon you, and give you peace."**