

Choices

Starter a

Are you good at making decisions? When everyone around you is dithering or being very non-committal do you know what is the right thing to do, say, or go to? Or do you always leave making a decision until you have no choice about it? Do you generally make the right decision or are there still choices you make that rattle around your head and you will continue to always regret them?

Starter b

Get into groups of three. Have a range of presents (1 per group) some of them great; a bar of chocolate, 3 £2 coins, bag of sweets, 3 nice pens etc, and some not so great; some mud, used train ticket, leaves, empty crisp packet etc. Wrap them so (If possible) you cannot guess what is inside. Ask each group to pick a present and not to unwrap it yet. Talk about how and why they choose their present. Now unwrap the presents. Are they happy with the choices that they made?

Read

Ephesians 5:1 - 5

Discussion Questions

Are some choices easier to make than others?

Would you ever ask someone else opinion when making a choice over, starting smoking, or what film to watch, or GCSE options/ A level course, or what to wear to a party?

Do you always want to choose the "right" thing to do?

How do you make a decision when you don't want to do what you know is right?

Why does this verse say we should try and make good choices?

This was written many hundreds of years ago, have the bad things we want to do changed?

About you

"You are God's children whom He loves." What a way to start! Stop and think about that for a minute. Big God! The God who has infinite power in His little finger. He creates stuff. Knows everything! Can be everywhere at once. Perfect in every way. Loves you!!!!!!! Wow!!!!!!! Then, because He loves you we should try and live in a way that pleases Him.

When someone is telling me what to do I often get cross and disagree with them just because of the way they are telling me rather than asking me. Sometimes, I know what they are saying is right and better for me but I do the opposite because they have made me cross and I want to make them cross. It can be easy to see God like that. Some old man judge on a cloud handing out rules, telling you what you are not allowed to do and certainly never letting you have any fun. This passage describes God in a different way.

God is someone who comes along side us, cares about, wants to listen to us and spend time with us. So we should try and please Him with what we do and how we choose to live our lives because of His gift of love to us and not because of a list of scary rules.

To do

Look at what you are doing and take a moment to think, if I were to tell God about my day would I tell Him about this bit. If you wouldn't, think seriously about whether it is something you should be doing.