

I Have Decided Part 3 David Longenecker

April 22, 2018

Ephesians 1:11 (Message) It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for . . . part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone.

I HAVE DECIDED TO LIVE A LIFE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

1 John 3:10 (TPT) Here is how God's children can be clearly distinguished from the children of the Evil One. Anyone who does not demonstrate righteousness and show love to fellow believers is not living with God as his source.

WHAT IS RIGHTEOUSNESS?

•	Righteousness is NOT living a
	Galatians 3:9 (NLT) Those who are people of faith [whether Jew or Gentile] are blessed and favored by God [and declared free of the guilt of sin and its penalty, and placed in right standing with Him] along with Abraham, the believer.
•	Righteousness is living a
	Psalm 37:23-24 (AMP) The steps of a [good and righteous] man are directed and established by the Lord, And He delights in his way [and blesses his path]. When he falls, he will not be hurled down, Because the Lord is the One who holds his hand and sustains him.
•	A righteous man is a man.
	Psalm 37:23 (TPT) The steps of the God-pursuing ones follow firmly in the footsteps of the Lord, and God delights in every step they take to follow him.

I HAVE DECIDED TO PURSUE GOD'S PRESENCE

Psalm 27:4 (NKJV) One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.

	ng David figured out that the closer you get to God the ore empowered you'll be.
1.	I have decided to make the most of every
	Ephesians 5:15-16 (NIV) Be very careful, then, how you livenot as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.
2.	I have decided to get rid of every
	Hebrews 12:1 (NIV) Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.
3	. I have decided to prioritize in my life.
	Philippians 3:7-8 (NLT) I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus.



I Have Decided Part 3

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Ephesians 1:11 (Message) It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for . . . part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone.

Week 1: We decided to draw our identity from Jesus. Week 2: We decided to live out God's plan for our life.

I HAVE DECIDED TO LIVE A LIFE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

1 John 3:10 (TPT) Here is how God's children can be clearly distinguished from the children of the Evil One. Anyone who does not demonstrate righteousness and show love to fellow believers is not living with God as his source.

This Week: I have decided to live a life of righteousness. Next Week: I have decided to live a life of love.

WHAT IS RIGHTEOUSNESS?

Righteousness is NOT living a <u>perfect life</u>.

Galatians 3:9 (NLT) Those who are people of faith [whether Jew or Gentile] are blessed and favored by God [and declared free of the guilt of sin and its penalty, and placed in right standing with Him] along with Abraham, the believer.

Faith is confidence in God which produces responses in us. Abraham did NOT live a perfect life!

- Joshua 24:2 Abraham started out as an idol worshiper.
- Genesis 20:12 Abraham married his half-sister.
- Genesis 12 Abraham was willing to prostitute his wife.
- Genesis 16 Abraham sleeps with Hagar, Sarah's servant.
- Righteousness is living a <u>God-pursuing life</u>.
 I am righteous because I heard a message, and responded to that message.

Faith is confidence in God which produces responses in us.

Psalm 37:23-24 (AMP) The steps of a [good and righteous] man are directed and established by the Lord, And He delights in his way [and blesses his path]. When he falls, he will not be hurled down, Because the Lord is the One who holds his hand and sustains him.

A righteous man is a <u>God-pursuing</u> man.
 Pursuing God is faith's response.

Psalm 37:23 (TPT) The steps of the God-pursuing ones follow firmly in the footsteps of the Lord, and God delights in every step they take to follow him.

The closer we get to God the more we become like Him.

We become more joyful, more loving, more peaceful, we have more faith, we become kinder and more patient. It doesn't happen overnight; it comes by consistently allowing God's presence into our lives.

I HAVE DECIDED TO PURSUE GOD'S PRESENCE

Psalm 27:4 (NKJV) One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.

King David figured out that the closer you get to God the more empowered you'll be. Right living awakens as you pursue God.

1. I have decided to make the most of every opportunity.

Ephesians 5:15-16 (NIV) Be very careful, then, how you livenot as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.

2. I have decided to get rid of every distraction.

Hebrews 12:1 (NIV) Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

3. I have decided to prioritize **God's presence** in my life.

Philippians 3:7-8 (NLT) I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus.

A righteous life is a life in pursuit of the presence, power, and plan of God.