

I BEING IN THE WAY, THE LORD LED ME

WINTER YOUTH CONFERENCE 2006

DECISIONS! DECISIONS!! DECISIONS

If we could just avoid them – but we can't! We can't avoid them and we can't minimize the importance of them. How about you in this room as this conference begins? You are at least 16 years old and I will venture a guess that you will make at least three decisions in the **next nine years** that will affect the **REST OF YOUR LIFE HERE ON EARTH!!** What might some of these decisions be? I am assuming that you already belong to Jesus.

1. What field are you going into?
2. What school are you going to attend to prepare you for this field?
3. Who are you going to marry?

These are some pretty heavy things – wouldn't you agree? So how do I presently approach this area of decision making in my life? What criteria do I presently use when I am faced with important decisions? Do I think **"long term"** or am I usually just concerned with the present? What does the word **EXERCISE** mean to me? It is with this in view that we take this area of decisions and relationships up with the young people this year.

What valuable lessons we can learn from the lives of God's own servants. So often we see the mistakes others have made, know somewhat of what caused their problems – but then we follow the same practices they did, thinking that somehow the results will be different in our lives. Lets begin by looking at some areas in the life of Samson and asking you for conclusions that you have drawn from what is written.

JUDGES 13

1. **What do we learn about the parents of Samson?** See verses 8, 19, 20 & 23. What kind of a home did he come from and what kind of parents did he have?
2. **What about Samson?** What are some very obvious advantages that Samson had? Verses 7, 24 and 25.
3. **Now – what guarantees did Samson have** that he would be a successful Judge, leader and deliverer of the people of God?
4. **What one thing appears to be missing in the life of Samson?**
Discuss

JUDGES 14

5. **How is this seen in verses 2 & 3 & 5.**
6. **What does appear to be the driving force in the life of Samson? Discuss**

JUDGES 16

7. **What is it that Samson does not realize and what are the dreadful consequences of it in verse 20?**
8. **How many of us would like for one of the great events of our life to be described as it is in verse 21?**
9. **Before moving on to more positive things – lets pause and ask ourselves the same question we asked about Samson. What guarantee do we have? In what direction am I heading? Are there some parallel areas in my life presently and the life of Samson?**

We trust that we are beginning to realize that for the child of God – there is one key word that must be fundamental with us. The flesh would like all kinds of rules – perhaps some cool books to quote and such like items but the Spirit of God would work in our hearts to produce real **EXERCISE**!! The flesh will avoid this at all cost and God will work to create it for our blessing in spite of us.

GENESIS 24

Before looking at Isaac and Rebekah in detail, let's ask a question of each of us. Who is ultimately **responsible** and **accountable** for the decisions that you make? Your parents have played a very important role in your life and will continue to do so – but what are they preparing you to do? If I don't prepare for the future – who will pay the price? If I follow the example of Samson, who will be the loser? The verse we are going to break down begins with **"I"**.

Before looking at Rebekah, let's break down verse 27, part b.

1. **What does this mean to me? – “I being in the way”.**
The responsibility for my “**being in the way**” is not the responsibility of my parents, Sunday school teacher, etc. It must start with me!! No one else will ever have to give an accounting to God for what you have done.
2. What does “**being**” denote? Does it denote a continued state or is it an “up” one day and “down” another? Discuss
3. What about “**in the way**”? How many “ways” are there? What is “the way”? Are these prerequisites to his being willing to lead?
4. I see **three** things in this verse.
 - A. The way
 - B. The Lord
 - C. Me Discuss

I think it would be nice to have a group exercise with Isaac and Rebekah. Perhaps the boys could look at Chapter 22 and tell us tomorrow the things they see about Isaac that they think are nice or important. And then the girls in their groups will look at Isaac and tell us what they think are important features coming out in his life. And we will do the same with Rebekah in Chapter 24.. The girls will list things they think are important about Rebekah and they guys will also list what they think are important and we will discuss and compare lists. I believe we will find the difference of perspectives most interesting.

TITUS CHAPTER 2

Verses 4 & 5

Lets list the things spoken of for sisters and discuss each briefly.

- a. . . . To be sober
- b. . . . To love their husbands
- c. . . . To love their children
- d. . . . Discreet
- e. . . . Chaste
- f. . . . Keepers at home
- g. . . . Good
- h. . . . Obedient to their own husbands.
- i. . . . What does it mean – “that the Word of God be not blasphemed”

Now lets discuss what the Spirit of God says about the young men.

- a. . . . Sober minded
- b. . . . A pattern of good works
- c. . . . In doctrine showing uncorruptness
- d. . . . Gravity
- e. . . . Sincerity
- f. . . . Sound speech

II Corinthians 6 – vs 14 thru 18.

- a.** What is an unequal yoke?
- b.** What exceptions does the Spirit of God make in this area?
- c.** Discuss the reasoning God gives us in this area.
- d.** Discuss the absolute prohibition of verse 17.
- e.** Discuss the blessing of verses 16 and 18.