



Collective worship 20.1.20

This week's theme is the 'Choices'.

Choices

This week we will be looking at choices, how to make them, and what they mean. St Augustine of Hippo said that, 'Right is right even if no one is doing it; wrong is wrong even if everyone is doing it.' This reflects that sometimes it is easy to become used to things that are wrong just because we see them happening a lot! We see in Genesis that we are all made in the 'Image of God' and created in his likeness. This means that we are all special and unique! However, God also gave us free will, the ability to make choices and decisions, sometimes this leads us down the wrong path.

Choices in School:

To wear correct uniform
To complete homework
To work in class



How many of you have made the correct choices today?



Watch the clip:

How do the small choices that the man makes daily ultimately shape his life?

Discuss with your Form Tutor the small choices that you make that shape your life? Are they the right choices?



Your life is a result of the choices you make...
If you don't like your life it is time to start making better choices.



Time to think:

Each choice that we make, whether it is big or small, shapes and determines our lives. The most obvious result of our choices is the impact it has on us! But our choices can also have an impact the lives of others.

When you drop a pebble into the water, it creates a ripple expansion that radiates outwards. Similarly, the impact from our choices also radiates outwards, affecting the world around us for better or for worse.

Good choices bring joy into our lives. Poor choices on the other hand, haunt us internally as regrets and externally as problems. Hence, we must be careful of the choices we make and the impact they have.

Father God, help us to make good choices today. Teach us how to know right from wrong. Help us to listen to good advice and ignore the pressure that we face from other people and the media to do or think the wrong thing.

Amen.

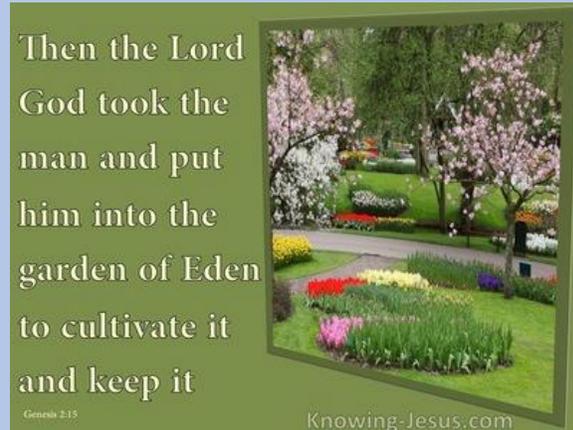


**In all your ways
submit to him,
and he will direct
your paths.**

—PROVERBS 3:6 (NIV)

What is a collective choice?

Our choices may not just affect the people around us. There are also choices that we make as a collective whole that can have a greater impact than we imagine. The harm that the choices of many can cause is great. This is especially so when we are not aware of the full impact of our collective actions. An example of this is the disposal of plastics! In Genesis God says, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." This is God giving us responsibility to look after the earth, and make good choices! Each choice and action that we make can affect the lives of others as well. Therefore, it is important to give our choices some thought to ensure it is not only beneficial to us, but to others as well. A collective choice can also be positive, for example the emphasis on recycling.



Watch the clip:
What do you think is meant by we are stewards, not owners?

How is Stewardship linked with choices?



As a class..

Can you think of some positive collective choices? This can be within school or outside of school.

1 John 1:9

'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.'

11% of household waste is plastic, 40% of which is plastic bottles. A plastic cup can take 50 - 80 years to decompose. An estimated 13 billion plastic bottles are disposed of each year. Plastic bags and other plastic garbage thrown into the ocean kill as many as 1 million sea creatures every year.

Are these statistics based around choices?
Why should we care?

**Dear God,
We thank you that we have the freedom to make choices.
We thank you for our parents, friends and teachers, who can help us in our choices.
We are sorry for the times when we have made the wrong choice.
Help us to choose honestly and examine our hearts.
Help us to choose decisively and not look back with regret.
Help us to choose wisely and make the right choice.**

Amen



Time to broaden our horizons!



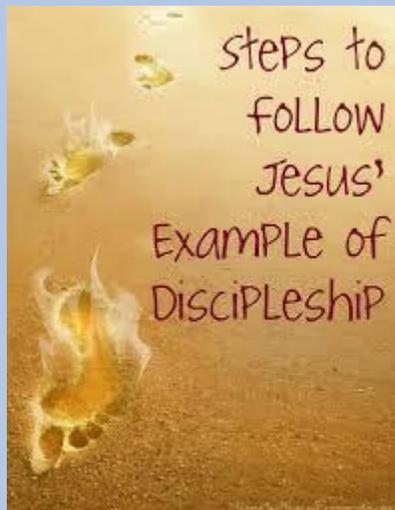
What can we do to make better choices? We have to broaden our awareness of the impact of our choices. Doing so can make a big difference between a good and a bad choice. But how do we go about increasing our awareness? The answer is simple. Knowledge is power. We have to educate ourselves about the impact of our choices to increase our awareness. We have to consider the possible consequences that our choices and actions can cause. Being aware of the impact of our choices will lead to better decision making. To access this awareness, we have to ask ourselves two questions before we make any important decision.

1. If I make this choice or continue along this path, how are events likely to develop?
2. What kind of impact will my choice have on my loved ones, the world and me now and in the future?

As well as this, it is important to understand that making choices and problem solving go hand in hand! Making choices often requires solving problems in order to make the correct choice.

**Life is an
outcome of
your choices**

What does this mean?



As a class..

Discuss some of your upcoming choices and how you will make the important ones.

How does this link to choices?

Your word is a lamp to guide me
and a light for my path.
(Psalm 119:105)

Watch the clip: Escaping from the Jellyfish

What problems did Marlin and Dorey face?
What did they do to solve their problem?
What kind of qualities did Marlin use to make choices?

Make good
choices
today. So,
you don't
have regrets
tomorrow.

HUMANITY CENTRAL

Let us pray:

Dear Lord,

Give me the patience to handle big and small decisions in different areas of my life. Fill me with divine strength that I may always follow your leading. May I take the path you are showing me even if it seems long.

Amen