



I believe every decision I make matters, help me listen only to the voice of God as I make them.

1. Spiritually speaking, being tempted, tested, and going through a trial can all be related to the _____ event or circumstances.

Matthew 4:1 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the Devil. (footnote: Greek word tempted can also mean tested.)

The Holy Spirit led Jesus into the desert, so that the devil could test him. (Contemporary English Version – CEV)

- a. Satan’s perspective: he was tempting Jesus – hoping he would _____.
- b. God’s perspective: Jesus passed a _____ – proving he was a sinless.

I Cor 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. (footnote: The Greek for temptation and tempted can also mean testing and tested.)

- a. The promise is to _____ a way for you to pass the test and overcome the temptation. They are both **based in the same reality**.
- b. The end result determines if it should be called a test or a temptation.

James 1:2-3 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the **testing** of your faith produces perseverance.

- a. Every time you pass a test, you _____ your spiritual strength.
- b. Every time you overcome temptation, you increase your spiritual strength.

James 1:4-5 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. *If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.*

- a. When you ask for wisdom, so that you can pass the test/overcome temptation, God _____ to provide it.
- b. As always, it’s up to _____ whether we use this wisdom or not.

Practical Application:

1. _____ decision you make will either be obedience, wisdom, or failure.
 - a. Grey area decisions, made in _____ and _____, honor the God who have you this freedom and wisdom.
 - b. Black and white decisions, made in _____, honor the God who instructed you.
 - c. Intentionally choosing the unwise, or immoral path, _____ God and gives Satan a _____ in your life. (Ephesians 4:27)

2. I must understand/embrace the idea that _____ decision will either honor or dishonor God.

3. I must also understand, that the _____ I take in making the decision, does the same.
 - a. Getting lucky does not honor God – I have to show my work.
 - b. The ends does _____ always justify the means.

4. When I find myself in a troubling, stressful, traumatic, or dangerous situation:
 - a. _____ is calling for me to use my knowledge of the Bible, His character, His commands, His promises, and His Holy Spirit to make good and wise choices.
 - b. _____ is calling for me (using lies and deception) to use culture, selfishness, idolatry, societal pressures, pragmatism, and unproved lies to make bad and unwise choices.
 - c. In almost every situation involving a choice, _____ will have the opportunity to prove my faith in God to myself, or to discourage my faith and damage my witness.
 - d. If I prove my faith – I made it a _____.

If I damage my witness – I made it a _____.

5. My job as a believer, is to **listen carefully** to the voice of God, and **ignore** the many voices of Satan, as I make decisions. I must apply this principal in both the big, small, important, and mundane.

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