

Morning Thoughts: Advice

One of the greatest gifts we have available to us is being able to get advice from wise, faithful disciples. We all have blind spots in our lives and need the help others input to keep us on track. Although it is such a blessing to have ppl involved in our lives on such a deep level, advice can also be one of the hardest things to accept due to our strong personal desires/agendas/opinions/pride.

Advice Can Relieve Our Burdens (Exodus 18:17-23)

We see here Noah's father in law, Jethro, had Noah's best interest in mind. He saw that Noah was under a great deal of stress and was so overwhelmed with his life situation at this moment he needed the help. Noah had blind spots and his father stepped up and gave him very specific direction on how to divide the work. In vs 23 it clearly states "If you do this and God so commands, you will be able to stand the strain, and all these people will go home satisfied." If Noah chose to follow the advice Jethro gave him, God was going to be glorified and his load would lessen. He wouldn't be overwhelmed.

Name a few times you can think of when someone gave you advice that saved you from making a big mistake.

Q: How did you feel after following it not knowing what the outcome would be before then?

Advice Isn't Always What We Want (2 Timothy 4:3; 1 Corinthians 6:12-13a; Galatians 5:1)

2 Timothy 4:3 - When we have a certain desire that we want more than anything it is important that we don't just go to ppl who will tell us what we want to hear. It still isn't biased and if that is why we chose to talk to that certain person, satan used it to feed into our sinful nature.

1 Corinthians 6:12-13a - This passage was used as an excuse back when the bible was written and can still be used as an excuse to today if we aren't careful. PPL used this as a way to manipulate situations to get what they wanted.

Galatians 5:1 - God has given us freedom in Christ and has "removed our sins from us as far as the east is from the west." (**Pslam 103:12**) We need to stand firm and not allow our "freedom" to lead us back into sin.

Trusting Godly Advice Even When It Hurts (Proverbs 3:1-15; Psalm 37:3-5)

We gain so much wisdom when we choose to not rely on our own understanding. It helps build a godly character in us such as a dependance on God, humility towards others, security, patients, etc. God wants to give us the desires of our hearts but we MUST dwell in his safe pastures, we MUST trust in him. 1st, we MUST surrender to God's will at all times including the areas of advice.

Q: Is it hard for you to trust people with things that mean so much to you? Why or why now? What happens when we lean on our own understand? What are some desires you have on your heart that you are battling in your heart to trust God with?

Focus for the Day:

Take some time to think through a how you can go about getting the advice God desires