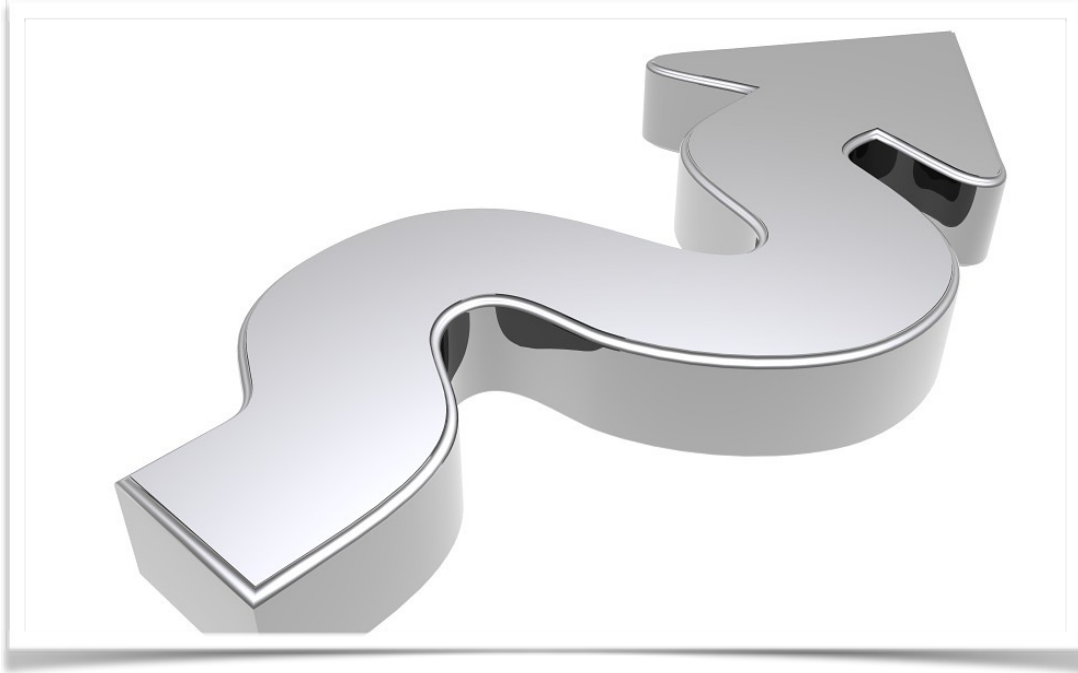


Wise Choices

Week 3



Big Choices: What are You Wearing?

Looking at the heart and not the outward appearance...

When I was a kid, I was singing with a choir and accidentally wore the wrong shirt. I stuck out like a sore thumb. It was embarrassing but the Bible talks about those who will stand ashamed before God—not because of anything they wore but because of how they lived. They aren't pure and blameless but stained and spotted by the ways of the world. Are you?

1

SIN

Are you doing things that you know are wrong?

2

PUT OFF

Are there actions and attitudes that you need to "put off" (get rid of)?

3

PUT ON

Are there actions and attitudes that you need to "put on" (start doing)?



Key Verse

This week's memory verse is:
Galatians 6:7-8.



Scripture Reading

Read and consider
Colossians 3:1-17,
Romans 13:14, &
1 John 1:19



Weekly Challenge

Read Genesis 3
before you come
next week.

Killing Wolves

I once read that in old times people discovered an effective way to kill wolves that were preying on their flocks. In the freezing cold, they would dip a knife in blood and let the blood freeze on it. Then they would stick the knife in the ground, blade up. A wolf would smell the blood and begin to lick the knife. As the wolf licked, it's tongue would numb with the cold and it would continue licking its own blood without knowing that it was cutting its tongue. The wolf was dying and didn't even know it.

“You might enjoy your sin for a little while but you don't realize what it's costing you.”

Sometimes people give sin a place in their lives. They think its small or not that bad or that just a little won't hurt. But they don't see that it only takes a little to ruin the whole thing.



Consider it this way: If I took one drop of toilet water and dropped it in a new, pure bottle of water, would that water be pure any more? Not at all. One drop ruins the whole thing.

If you have let sin into your life, you're a lot like that wolf. You might enjoy your sin for a little while but you don't realize what it's costing you. In the end, sin always brings hurt and destruction. You might be “dying” and not even know it.

Read John 10:10.

Then read and think about what Jesus said in Matthew 7:13-14.

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

This week make a list of the top 10 things that you value the most: friends, family, your dreams, money, grades, sports, hobbies, etc.

Is there anything in your life that you value more than your relationship with God? In other words, if you had to choose one or the other, which would you choose?

Many of the things we value are good things but anything that you love more than God, that is more important to you than knowing and following Jesus, has become an idol in your life - that's how sneaky sin can be.

