

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

By: Jeanne Elliott

One's philosophy is not expressed in word; it is expressed in the choices one makes. In the long run, we shape ourselves. The process never ends until we die. And, the choices we make are ultimately our own responsibility.

Eleanor Roosevelt

1884-1962 Am. First Lady

The choices we make are our action in our life. They are a dominoes effect for the rest of our lives.

Example:

A young man is not feeling well. He is church where his parents go to church. He never really thought much about his life or where he would be as an adult. His Grandmother asked if we would like for the elders to pray for his sickness. He shook his head no and walked out the church doors. Within three weeks he was in the hospital with a very serious condition. A disease that the doctors said was no cure. Now do you think it was because he told God no, I do not want your healing?

A young couple just moved into their new home in Hialeah, FL. They were taking their afternoon walk together looking at the neighborhood. The couple across the street came out to meet the new couple, Jeanne and Norm. "Come in for a drink," asked the man. Jeanne and Norm said, "No we do not drink". The man was taken back a few steps and didn't know what to say. The young couple told them they went to church and would he like to go with them the next Sunday. The man became very indigent, he said, "No and went back into the house with his wife. The next week he fell dead in his house. Do you think it was because he told God No?

The next week they had his funeral and the young housewife, Jeanne, went to show her respects to the wife. Again she gave words of encouragement to come to church. Through the tears the wife shook her head no. The next week the wife fell dead. Do you think it was because she told God No? Jeanne was so shocked that she went to deep prayer for the answer. What do you think the answer was from God?

Another time, Jeanne was selling Avon and had made friends with a wonderful lady. She was a nurse and loved Jeanne's visits every two weeks and bought a lot of products from her. The Lord was dealing with Jeanne in prayer to witness to her friend. She finally got the nerve to do it. The nurse

went into a rage. Jeanne told her to get out of her house and not to ever mention God to her again.

A week later Jeanne received a call from this same lady. She was in the hospital and was dying with cancer. She wanted Jeanne to come talk to her about God and the Bible. Jeanne went to the hospital and took her a Bible and gave it to her. She wanted Jeanne to do some shopping for her because it was almost Christmas time. So she did. The next day she took all the things she wanted and found her room empty. She supposed that they had taken her for treatment of some kind. Jeanne went to the nurse's station and asked about when she would be back from her treatment. The nurse looked surprised and told her that she had died that morning. Now, what do you think happened here? Did she get the cancer in a week and she died because she told God no? Or do you think maybe she had the cancer and God knew it and was throwing her a lifeline, because God does heal? What do you think?

There was a young man in service. He was in some kind of Special Forces where they would leave on secret missions and would come back in a week or so. This young man wanted to find God. He knew he could be killed at anytime. He called different churches in the area and no one had any answers for him. He finally went to a local church with the same results. He went to do his laundry at a laundry mat. He met two young people a man and a woman. They started talking to him about God. He sat down and listened to them very close. He wanted to know about God. They gave him the number an Apostolic church. The young man called and talked to the secretary. The secretary called Jeanne and gave her the young man's number to call. She called right away and got a Bible Study with him. She and Norm went over and told him about God. The young man came to church with so much faith that he was baptized and God filled him with the Holy Ghost. This young man got out of the service and went to college because a software engineer for a large company in Salt Lake, Utah. He makes over a \$100,000 a year. He is married and just had a new baby boy and they have moved into their new home. He travels all over the world with his knowledge of computers. He is also the Bible teacher of the adult class at his church. He has a nursing home meeting every week in his community. He has won many young nurses and aids. He is now the youth director over four states. Now, tell me did his success have anything to do with his desire and the choices she made to know about God? What do you think?

The above stories are true.

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Joel 3:14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

(Josh 24:15) And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Proverbs 1:29 For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD: They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices. For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them. But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.

Proverbs 2:1 My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee; So that thou incline thine ear unto wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding; Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly. He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints. Then shalt thou understand righteousness, and judgment, and equity; yea, every good path. When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul; Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee: To deliver thee from the way of the evil man, from the man that speaketh froward things; Who leave the paths of uprightness, to walk in the ways of darkness; Who rejoice to do evil, and delight in the frowardness of the wicked; Whose ways are crooked, and they froward in their paths:

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Now what do you think? Does our choices make a difference in our lives? Can we make decisions that will make a difference in our eternity? Why do people wait and not make a decision? Is it because they know way down in their spirits that they are going to make the wrong choice? Think about what is important to your life. Make the right choice. You know what it is. God is dealing with every one of us. Why? Because He loves us so much and He has paid a big price to redeem us. God bless you and my prayer is that you will always make the right decision.