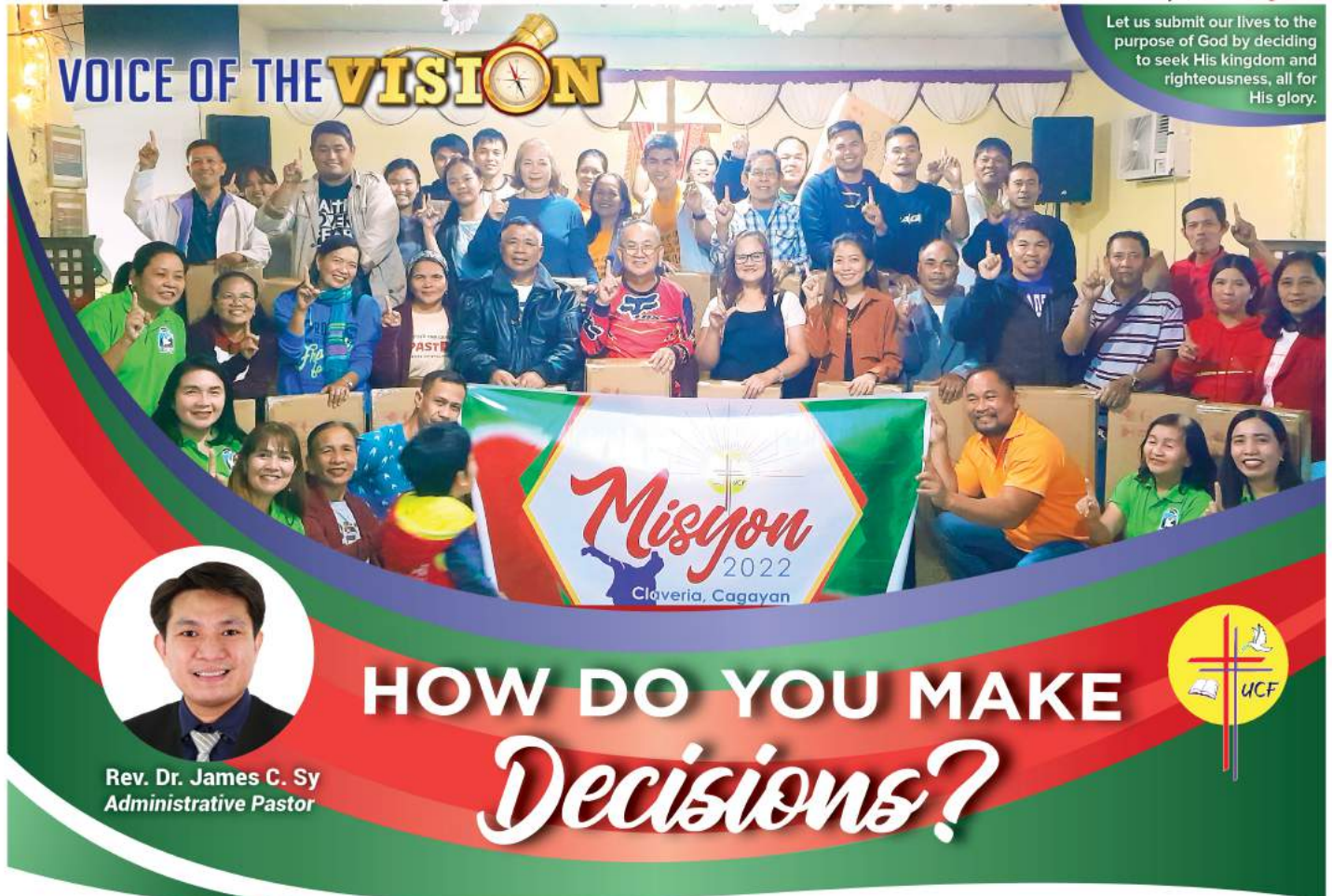


Let us submit our lives to the purpose of God by deciding to seek His kingdom and righteousness, all for His glory.

VOICE OF THE VISION



Rev. Dr. James C. Sy
Administrative Pastor

HOW DO YOU MAKE *Decisions?*



John 11:1-16 (NKJV)

¹Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. ²It was that Mary who anointed the Lord with fragrant oil and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick. ³Therefore the sisters sent to Him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick." ⁴When Jesus heard that, He said, "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶So, when He heard that he was sick, He stayed two more days in the place where He was. ⁷Then after this He said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, lately the Jews sought to stone You, and are You going there again?" ⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. ¹⁰But if one walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." ¹¹These things He said, and after that He said to them,

"Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up." ¹²Then His disciples said, "Lord, if he sleeps he will get well." ¹³However, Jesus spoke of his death, but they thought that He was speaking about taking rest in sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus said to them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, that you may believe. Nevertheless let us go to him." ¹⁶Then Thomas, who is called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him."

Introduction

Jesus was ministering somewhere east of the Jordan River when word came that His friend Lazarus, brother of Martha and Mary, was sick. They arrived late that same day and gave Jesus the news. Jesus stayed two days longer where He was, then spent a day traveling to Bethany, where He found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

Let us consider how Jesus makes decisions.

- He did not make decisions based on pressure of His friends.

- He did not make decisions based on emotions.

- He did not make decisions based on threats.

- He made decisions based on what would glorify God (v. 4).

God's glory takes priority even above our comfort and relief from trials! So in any decision, ask, "Which course of action will bring the most glory to God?" We can't always control the outcome of our decisions, but we should aim to glorify God through it.

- He made decisions based on walking in the light of God's purposes (v. 9-10).

Jesus was saying that God has appointed a certain amount of time for Him (or anyone) to work, and no one can touch Him before that time has ended. We are to make the most of opportunities to serve God while we still can. It is better to go with

Jesus into a place of danger than to be without Him in a place seemingly safe.

- He made decisions based on helping others come to faith/grow in faith (v. 14-15).

Jesus wasn't glad that Lazarus was dead, but He was glad for this situation because it would result in greater faith for the disciples. The disciples already believed in Jesus, but their faith needed to grow.

When Jesus prays aloud at the tomb of Lazarus, He states plainly that He did so in order that the people standing around the tomb would believe that the Father had sent Him. So, one of His main aims in waiting before coming to raise Lazarus was to bring some to saving faith and to strengthen the faith of those who already believed in Him.

Will it increase our faith and the faith of other believers? And, will it bring others who do not yet believe to saving faith?

How do you...

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A. Make sure that you are in submission to God and His will.

This is your starting point to eternity. This is both an initial and an ongoing commitment.

Colossians 2:6-7

6As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, 7rooted and built up in Him and

established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

B. Seek God's kingdom and righteousness first.

Matthew 6:33

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

C. Love God and love others.

Matthew 22:37-39

37Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." 38This is the first and great commandment. 39And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'"

Conclusion

We can only use our time correctly when we start submitting to God's purposes in our lives.

SERMON
NOTES

Write the points to remember from the sermon as you seek God in your life.

58

days left until the UCF 36th Anniversary

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REGISTER NOW!
P 700
P 600 FOR CHILDREN

UCF BIBLE RACE 2023
I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

SAVE THE DATE
28 JAN
SATURDAY

UCF Mt. Tabor Church - RE-CREATION CENTER

NOTE:

Registration fee includes accommodation, food, and shirt. Register your family to Sis. Karen Mohammad. For more details, kindly approach Bible Race Program Coordinator Sis. Merryll Lhorvin Santos.

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use hand sanitizer SOCIAL DISTANCING

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

BIBLE STUDY ON THE AIR with Rev. Dr. William Sy Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE Sundays at 9:00 AM

DAILY PRAYER 6:00 PM

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