

CHOOSING LIFE

Decision: The Way I Choose

Am I experiencing a new freedom in my life in such a way that my decisions are more and more in keeping with my desire to know Jesus intimately, love him more intensely and follow him more closely?

Vocation:

What's left when all the games have stopped.

Rowan Williams

The long term shaping of our lives by desires that we "own".

David Ford

What are the key temptations in my life and what happens within me when I allow myself to be controlled by them?

What happens when, through grace, I resist?

Think about the choices I have made in the past - and how they have shaped or formed me.

What choices present themselves to me now?

Where will they lead?

How prepared am I to be more and more shaped into the likeness of Christ?

How willing am I to be vulnerable and unprotected before God?

Or to consider poverty, weakness, unpopularity?

Do I welcome or avoid these attitudes and states Jesus calls blessed?

As I grow in awareness of the struggle within me between two sets of values, two wisdoms -can i hear an invitation towards a radical conversion of outlook and a growing freedom to desire the grace to live as Christ lived?

Is there an image(s) of Jesus which might help in this choice tor life? How attractive is Christ's paschal way?

I so much want the truth of Jesus' life to be fully the truth of my own that I find myself by God's grace asking to follow Jesus in as intimate union as possible.

Ignatius of Loyola

Discernment is about sifting what is genuine or true from what is false. It is about distinguishing what gives us life, and what allows us to make choices which arise out of our deepest truth.