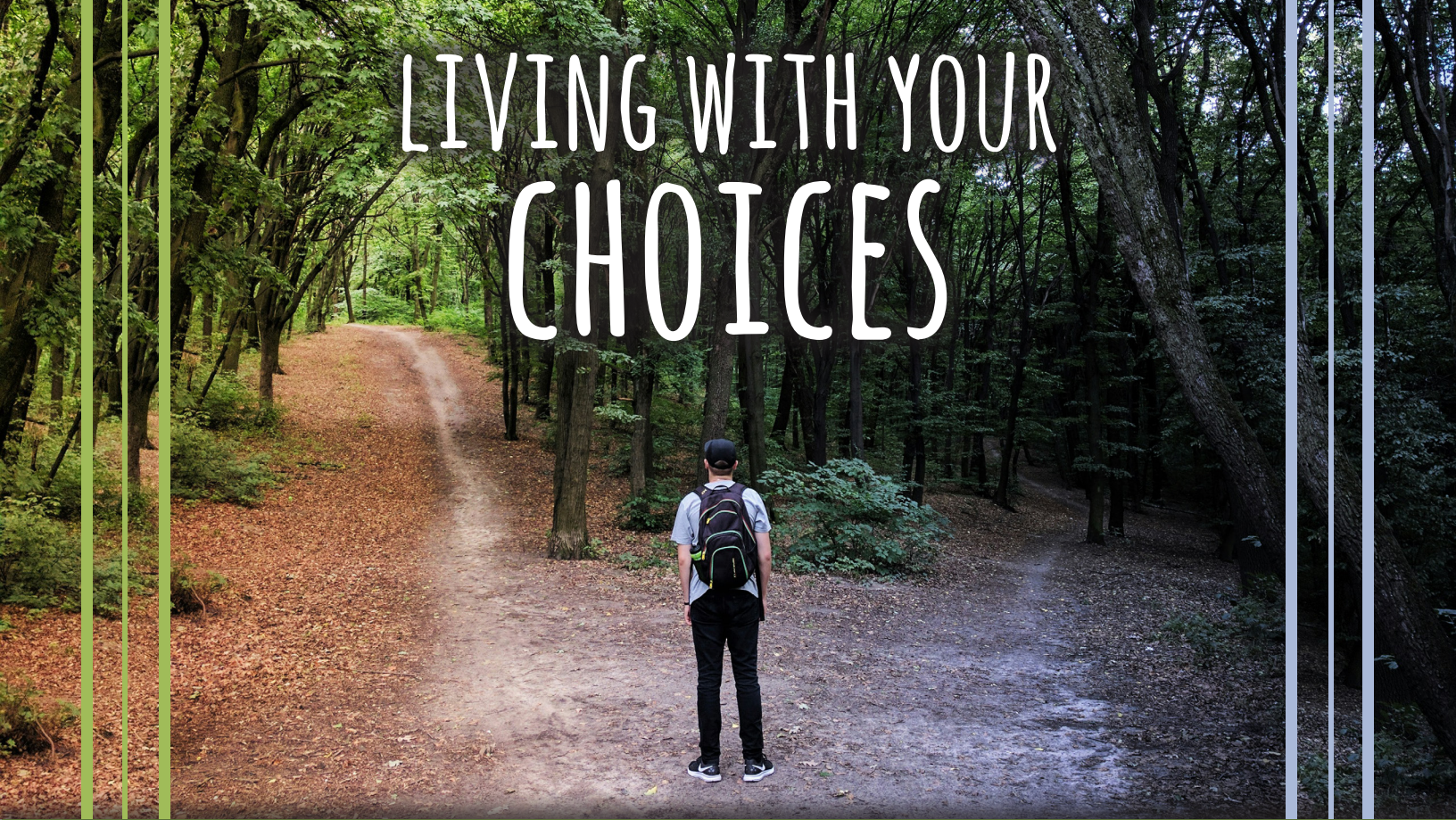


LIVING WITH YOUR CHOICES



Living with Your Choices Genesis 13 Sunday, May 19

Perhaps one of Robert Frost's most famous poems is "The Road not Taken." The poem is known for its exploration of choices and the diverging paths we encounter in life. In the poem, Frost wrote:

*Two roads diverged in a wood, and I,
I chose the one less traveled by.
And that has made all the difference.*

In life, you will face diverging roads, choices! One will take you one direction and the other will take you in a different direction. Each choice you make will have consequences. Jesus said something about this in Matthew 7:13-14: ¹³ "Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. ¹⁴ "For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it. Matthew 7:13-14 ^(NASB95) In Genesis 13, we learn from Abram and Lot the importance of making wise choices. Abram and Lot lived with the consequences of their choices.

Key thought: You must live with the consequences of your choices. Choose wisely!

THE PERSON WHO MAKES UNWISE CHOICES: Gen. 13:10-13 (Lot)

- Chooses on outward appearances
- Chooses the immediate rather than the eternal
- Relies on their own understanding
- Ignores the obvious

THE PERSON WHO MAKES WISE CHOICES: Gen. 13:14-18 (Abram)

(Proverbs 1:7; Proverbs 3:35; Proverbs 12:15, 28)

- Seek's God's wisdom
- Asks the right questions

5 Key Questions:

1. What is the pattern? *God's word*
2. Do I have peace? *God's presence*
3. Whose perspective am I looking from? *God's view*
4. Whose purpose does this fulfill? *God's purpose*
5. Who does this please most? *God's praise*

- Desires the eternal over the immediate

There is a point along the Continental Divide high in the Rocky Mountains in Colorado at which the waters of a small stream separate. It would not seem to matter much whether a drop of water goes to the left or to the right. But the outcome of those drops of water is totally different. One drop goes to the west and eventually flows into the Colorado River and empties into the Gulf of California and the Pacific Ocean. Another drop goes east until it flows into the Mississippi River and dumps into the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean. Two drops of water, two entirely different destinations, but one small turning point that determines the outcome.

Make wise choices. You will live with the consequences of your choices!