

Do The Right Thing
Because It's The Right Thing

Questions:

- How much do you want to go to Heaven?
- How much of yourself are you willing to invest or commit to get there?
- How can we know what is the right thing to do?

Do The Right Thing Because It's The Right Thing

- This not a subject that can be discussed rationally in any forum except faith
 - Ethics and philosophy - There is no such thing as a choice that is right under all circumstances
 - Psychology and sociology - There is no such thing as truly unselfish behavior (psychological egoism)
 - Biology and sociology - Altruism is counter to the instinct for survival
 - Politics - The right thing is inconvenient or impractical

Do The Right Thing

- Christians should always do the right thing, especially when no one is watching or will ever know.
- When faced with temptation, our conscience tells us what is right
- But the longer we linger thinking about it, the more we rationalize our way into yielding to the temptation

Do The Right Thing

- Rom. 7:21-23 - “I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good. 22 For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. 23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.”

Do The Right Thing

- But doing the right thing is not limited to resisting temptation; it is much more
- Doing good for others when the opportunity presents itself.
 - Gal. 6:10 - “Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.”
 - James 4:17 - “Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.”

Do The Right Thing

- But doing the right thing is not limited to resisting temptation; it is much more
- Doing the right thing when faced with pressure from others; this is not just limited to the young.
 - Ex. 23:2 - “You shall not follow a crowd to do evil; nor shall you testify in a dispute so as to turn aside after many to pervert justice.”
 - Job 31:34 - “Because I feared the great multitude, And dreaded the contempt of families, So that I kept silence And did not go out of the door”

Do The Right Thing

- But doing the right thing is not limited to resisting temptation; it is much more
- Doing the right thing when no one is watching or will ever know
 - Gal. 6:7 - “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.”
 - 1Peter 1:16 - “Be holy, for I am holy.”

Do The Right Thing

- Doing the right thing is easier in the long run.
 - The consequences will be easier to bear
 - It is less work than trying to maintain a lie to sustain it
 - You will sleep better with a clear conscience

What Is The Standard For The Right Thing?

- God is the standard of truth
 - Psalm 100:5 - “For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting, And His truth endures to all generations.”
 - Psalm 119:160 - “The entirety of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever.”

What Is The Standard For The Right Thing?

- Jesus as God the Son is the standard of truth
 - John 8:31-32 - “Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. 32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”
 - John 14:6 - “Jesus said to him, I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

What Is The Standard For The Right Thing?

- The Holy Spirit as Deity is the standard of truth
 - John 16:13 - “However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”

What Is The Standard For The Right Thing?

- The right thing is not subject to conscience, peer pressure, morals of current society, etc.
- The right thing is what God says it is.
- The apostle Paul felt he was doing the right thing
 - Acts 26:9 - “Indeed, I myself thought I must do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.”

What Is The Standard For The Right Thing?

- Helping others is the right thing
 - Matt. 25:37-40 - “Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? 38 'When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? 39 'Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' 40 And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’”

What Is The Standard For The Right Thing?

- Taking responsibility for self is the right thing
 - Num. 32:23 - “But if you do not do so, then take note, you have sinned against the LORD; and be certain your sin will find you out.”
 - Ecc. 11:9 - “Rejoice, O young man, in your youth, And let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth; Walk in the ways of your heart, And in the sight of your eyes; But know that for all these God will bring you into judgment.”

What Is The Standard For The Right Thing?

- Courageously setting a good example is the right thing
 - 1Tim. 4:12 - “Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.”

What Is The Standard For The Right Thing?

- Hard work is the right thing
 - Col. 3:22-24 - “Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God. 23 And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.”

What Is The Standard For The Right Thing?

- Putting God and His word first in everything is the right thing to do
 - Ecc. 12:13 - “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all.”
 - Matt. 6:33 - “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”

What Is The Standard For The Right Thing?

- Loving those who cause us pain or make our lives difficult is the right thing to do
 - Matt. 5:43-45 - “You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, 45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven”

What Is The Standard For The Right Thing?

- Doing the right thing when no one is watching is the right thing to do
 - Matt. 6:2-6, 16-18
- Do the right thing because God takes it personally
 - Matt. 25:31-46
- Do the right thing because it will define you.
 - It will reveal to you and all potential observers whether you are strong in the Lord or a spiritual weakling.

What Is The Standard For The Right Thing?

- Your life can be changed forever in an instant by a bad decision you make.
 - Gen. 3:5-7 - “For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil. 6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.”

What Is The Standard For The Right Thing?

- Your life can be changed forever in an instant, by a bad decision you make.
 - Luke 22:59-62 - “Then after about an hour had passed, another confidently affirmed, saying, Surely this fellow also was with Him, for he is a Galilean. 60 But Peter said, Man, I do not know what you are saying! Immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. 61 And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had said to him, Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times. 62 So Peter went out and wept bitterly.”

Do The Right Thing Because It's The Right Thing

- Without exception it is always right to do the right thing
- How much do you want to go to Heaven?
- How far are you willing to go in order to get there?