

Dear Friends:

September 20, 2007

Decisions are a big part of our lives. We all must make decisions every day - some of them big and important, others more routine. Being faced with decisions can be stressful; and the more decisions you have to make (especially important ones), the greater the stress. How can we better handle this pressure, and how can our faith in Jesus Christ help? In keeping with my recent emphasis, I would like to suggest the following:

## **"Putting Christ first in decisions."**

This is a variation on that popular Christian slogan, "WWJD - What Would Jesus Do?" Not knowing immediately how to handle a given situation, we try to figure out what Jesus would do, and follow his example. Here's the variation: instead of asking myself what Jesus would do, I can ask Him directly in prayer, "Dear Lord Jesus, what do you want me to do? What decision are you calling me to make?"

That's what I mean by *putting Christ first in decisions*. When faced with a difficult choice, especially one from which there can be no turning back, we can bring Christ, and our desire to glorify Him, into the calculation. Instead of asking ourselves over and over again, "What *should* I do?", and never really knowing the answer, we can ask, "What would bring glory to God? What would serve my Lord?" That's putting Christ first.

I do not claim that this approach will make all your decisions obvious. But it will give you fresh perspective and deeper insight. And it will give you peace and calm, the confident assurance that you are walking with the Lord, and He with you.

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Carl L.M. Rasmussen