CHOICES

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord

By Hannah A. Skinner



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A SPECIAL THANK YOU

To Tina for the lovely pictures she takes that made the cover of this book look great.

Hoping to work more with her in the future.



Tina Skinner Gichard

DEDICATION

To all those who struggle each day with making Choices. The mind can be so deceptive and can confuse, bring fear and make us feel unworthy to make any decision or choice that needs to be made.

You can do it...

As you read this book I pray that you see how easy it is to make the right Choice in everything you do.

I Dedicate this book to YOU....

INTRODUCTION

I am writing this book to help you see how making the right choice will change your life. For so many years I struggled with thoughts of "Is this the right thing, or Should I do this or that?"

Life does not have to be hard for you, as you read the different ways that there is help for you to make the Choices that have to be made. It is simple when we learn how to do it. Each day is a learning process for each of us and as we walk on this journey of life we can advance physically and spiritually to make a better life for ourselves and those around us.

YOU are important and the Choices you make can change your destiny if you will let it.

My prayer today is that as you read this book you will be encouraged to know you are not alone and that you are loved beyond what you could every imagine. Remember tomorrow is not promised, so it is what we do today that will count for the rest of our lives.

Blessings to you as you read these pages.



YOUR FIRST CHOICE

Have you ever stopped and thought about your choices in life? What maybe was the first choice that set you on a pathway to your future that if done differently would have definitely changed your life.

I look back on my life and see that the one choice I made in life was when I was in High School. I honestly hated school and dreaded each day having to walk there. My days dragged by and after the first year I just wanted out. I remember coming home and mentioning my thoughts to my Mom. Mom was a wonderful lady and a little soft, when I told her that I did not want to go back to school at all the first thing she said was please don't tell your Father.

Back then I guess I should have been disciplined but Mom was never like that and I found that I got my own way. Being young and not knowing what direction in life would be good for me, Mom decided to enroll me in a friend of hers Business College, it was for adults and I was just turning 15 years old. It is amazing what friends will do for you so I got accepted into this Business College that taught me the basics. I attended for 10 months and got my degree in Bookkeeping and Office Management. I thought I was pretty cool and applied for a job in an Insurance Office in town. They were looking for someone they could train

and I was it. I started the week of my 16th birthday and loved it. There was another lady in the office who trained me in their routine and before too long I was a pro at least I thought I was back then. I got my drivers license and shortly after that I got a small car to get me back and forth.

Looking back now I see that the decision I made was really the wrong choice, I have often thought if I had only stayed in school my life would be so much different, but back then we never think as a teenager the outcome of our actions.

So many things happened at the Insurance Office and I grew up pretty quickly. I remember asking for a raise after about 6 months and alone in the back office with the owner he graciously said I deserved it, as I stood up to leave he grabbed me and I guess wanted me to pay in a sexual way for my raise of pay. I was terrified and when I told the Office Manager, he said he would handle it but it wasn't the way I thought it would be handled. I was accused of taking \$20 out of the till or giving the wrong change to someone. No one had come in and I realized I was being set up and dismissed of my job. So much for my raise huh?

I started to learn the way of the world and the protection of my family life was slowly leaving as I

realized once again my choice of leaving school had been wrong.

By this time I had no choice but to move on and find more work which I did.

As time passed I saw that some choices that I had made only set me back instead of forward, but back then I thought there was no turning back and I had made my bed and had to lie in it.

A boyfriend came along and once again a choice was made that ruined the next 12 years of my life.

All these stories are in other books that I have written so I won't go into much detail here.

I just want to talk of our Choices and how they can help us or hinder us.

Have you had to make any Choices lately? Here is what I found out in life that just might help you.

MY EYES WERE OPENED

One day my eyes were opened to the fact that if we make the wrong choice we are almost doomed, I want to talk about the way we talk each day. This can make choices for us. What you don't understand what I am saying? I saw you look puzzled for a minute. Well here goes.

The Bible talks about the Power of our Tongue, what we say we get. Life or Death.

Honestly I never understood that much and actually thought that it didn't make sense how could our words have anything to do with our choices or decisions that we made, but here is how it works.

You get up in the morning, get dressed and go into the kitchen to make a coffee... am I right? Well I do. Coffee is always good and the first cup always tastes the best. Then you realize your milk is a little sour because you hadn't put it in the fridge the night before. OH NO! Now what? You go looking for other creamers and then you realize that you don't have any. Does your mood change? It sure does, you aren't that happy go lucky person that just crawled out of bed. You start complaining that you should have made sure the creamer was in the fridge. After a few minutes you decide you better get going and still have time to stop at the store for a

coffee to go before work. You walk out the door, and all of a sudden it pours rain, should you run to the car or go back inside to get the umbrella? Well you turn, look in your purse for your keys and realize that you have locked your front door with the keys inside the house. Another few more mumbling words as you go crawling through a window, getting soaked to the skin and wishing you had never woke up. Thinking all the time if you had just put that milk in the fridge last night this wouldn't have happened. Not true of course but you have set yourself up for a lousy day and it is no ones fault but your own. Where are the smiles that you normally have? Where is the joy? You have actually let your emotions rule so far and the day has only started by one hour.

Have you ever done anything similar to this? I have and I have put myself in a terrible frame of mind that lasted the whole day. When I crawl into bed at night I just want to sleep and forget that the day had ever happened because it seemed like everything had went wrong. STOP! Now why do you think your day went so wrong? Could it have been that your choice your made by letting your emotions rule made it worse than what it ever would have been? You know I am right if you are honest. You are probably sitting there saying I don't know what I am talking about and yet deep inside you know the

truth. We can make our days good or we can make them a disaster. I guess I look back over some of my days and see that I let satan take over, use me to the fullest, rob me of my joy and ruin my whole day... hmmm and all because of a little sour milk.

Sad isn't it?

I know this is just a little choice that we allowed and we probably didn't even realize what we had done, see we were so busy thinking about our first coffee and it controlled our whole day.

I have found myself talking to someone on the phone as probably you have too. My day had been going great and when the phone rang I never thought much about it but as the person on the other end started to talk I could feel myself getting depressed and really sad.... Hmmm why? Then it hit me, all they were doing was complaining about their life and the choices they should have made but didn't and here was me the listener taking it all in and carrying their hurts, depression as if it was mine. One day my eyes were opened and when this lady called I answered but said I couldn't talk at that moment... A great decision I made and a realization that I was not going to listen to garbage anymore. I have still followed this rule and find my life is much

better for it. BUT I HAD TO MAKE THE CHOICE, not talk to her.

EMOTIONS

Our Emotions sometimes get in there and we feel as a good person we should listen and try to help others through their problems or even give advice when asked. Now sometimes advice is good but one thing I have found in Ministry is that we can talk till be are blue in the face and that person who is reaching out just wants someone to listen and they end up doing what they want to do anyways. We walk away totally drained of everything within us and ready for bed and they walk away making the wrong choice that they had planned in the first place but just wanted to vent about their situation. SO be careful who you listen too, pray for Wisdom and put your emotions aside when talking to others. Always remember it is there life and you are pretty busy taking care of your own life.

Not meaning to be mean or anything but I realize that I am better off when I let people know what the Word of God says about their situation and there is always a way out of it if they really want a way out. Sadly many don't so we have to move on so they don't drain us and pull us into their mess.

I've always been known to be pretty blunt and many times have tried to curb it and watch what I say, but realizing if I tell them the truth of course in a loving way then it reverses back into their court and sets me free to be me.

Try it sometimes it works.

FEAR

There are many who live each day afraid to make the choice to tell the truth about a situation or circumstance and only find out later that it had got worse, or the person had used their fear against them. How sad isn't it? Many live to please others and not themselves or God. YOU ARE IMPORTANT and when you feel fear set in when a choice has to be made, make that choice that will keep your free, especially if you are walking with the Lord and the Bible makes it pretty clear what the answer is that you have to tell them. DON'T BE A PEOPLE PLEASER..... Never it will backfire in your face and you will be the miserable one. People will turn on you and you will be the bad one in the

We have an enemy who tries to confuse us, his name is satan, lucifer, the devil which ever you choose to call him. He will put thoughts into your mind to make you think a different way than what is right. You are not alone when this happens even though your thoughts tell you that you will never make the right choice. I KNOW YOU WILL.

BIG CHOICES TO BE MADE

When you have a big choice that must be made, here is what you do.... First PRAY, Second GO TO THE BIBLE and find out what it says about that situation and then move forward.

Years ago I used to be able to find scripture that would condone sin in my life, I always thanked God for opening doors that He has said in the Word of God were to remain shut, but I ignored that part. What a sick individual I was. It took me years to see that HE really loved me and wanted

what was best for me but it was me that wouldn't listen to Him or His Word, and man did I pay the price. Four marriages lady, homeless, sick, searching and not knowing how to change my lifestyle... it was bad for me for sure.... BUT I LEARNED.... Took a lot of years but I learned that GOD was a loving God and had given me the Bible that would direct me in every situation that arose if I only followed it. It is pretty easy once you get the hang of it too.

LADIES ONLY

Ladies this part is just for you, of course I know the men will read it too and it may even be to them too. Us ladies like to have a man in the house... right? We always want the perfect one to be our other half and yet ladies there is no perfect person, man or woman. BUT we tend to look at the outside, we see their faults of course but we ignore them and feel that they will change when they are with us... WRONG AGAIN LADIES...

Men are only human, they are different than us and act different as well as think different. Here it is straight.... IF YOU WANT TO SERVE GOD... then remember the scripture that Two CANNOT walk together unless they are agreed. Now that

means if he likes to drink, swear, run around, has no time for GOD whatsoever, and you are the opposite or vise versa, STAY AWAY from each other. Many feel that a person can be changed and they can't ... I knew a lady she has passed on now, but she loved the Lord with all her heart. She met this man who was kind but didn't want anything to do with GOD and she married him. As time went on they had four kids, he began drinking heavily and started beating on her. Every word that came out of his mouth degraded her and hurt her bad but she hung in there. I spoke with her about two weeks before her death at 70 years old. While we were on the phone he came into the room and I could hear him in the background cursing her, saving how stupid she was ... it was terrible. Now she was old and her whole life had been like this. I remember saying on the phone that maybe she should go and she said it was ok, and kept talking as he cursed her over and over. I knew when I hung up that phone that she would be beat and yet she put up with it. When I asked her why she once said that she didn't realize he was like that when they dated, after the marriage and kids he got worse, but she knew it would be better just to stay with him for the kids sake... This dear lady had made the wrong choice and actually hadn't seen it at all, she made excuses for her life and suffered so terribly. When I heard

she had passed I CRIED but then I realized that she was finally out of her misery and free.

Now men go through the same thing too. I knew a man who married, he was a great guy all he wanted was a family and had had three little boys, sadly he had married a woman who totally abused him in every way possible. I remember him coming home from work when the kids were in diapers all three of them. She started yelling at him to change their diapers and take them outside and then hurry because he had to make supper. I couldn't believe my ears and even worse I watched him like a little puppy dog do it. Later I asked him "WHY"... He said he loved his boys and would do anything to keep them. She had threatened many times to leave and he was scared she would. Sadly that day came and she kicked him out, telling the courts that he had molested the boys.... A PURE LIE... and he never was allowed to see them again. He died at 38 years old of a broken heart. So see it is not only woman who suffer but men too. He lived in fear of what might happen and it did.

ABOUT YOU!

Let's talk about you for a minute... Do you ever feel that you are afraid to make a good choice? Do you

feel that maybe you have made a choice and now it is too late to change it? CHOICES can be changed, sometimes though there are consequences that arise from your choice which will make your journey a bit different but they can be changed.

You ask me "WHAT DO I DO?"

Here is the first thin that you must do. Turn your life over to Christ, He died on the Cross, shed his blood so that you will not only have eternal life but that your life down here will be a good one. Yes you will have ups and downs but you will know that HE is with you fighting on your behalf for your happiness and that you will never be alone, ever.

I used to think that if I gave my life over to Jesus that I would be missing out on so much, I would never be happy and I would be this person who was most miserable. NOT TRUE.

My life was so much better when I dedicated 100% to Jesus. Do I still have problems? YUP I do but I know who is with me to help me through them, see I am not alone. Jesus promises to never leave us alone or forsake us. You will be able to read some of the scriptures at the end of this book about how much He loves you and wants you to be happy.

Your CHOICES in life will mold your future, they will give you a happy life or make your miserable

and it is only YOU who can make the CHOICE for your own life, no one else can make it for you.

One thing I feel is wrong with people and myself at one time too is that we don't think enough of ourself at all, we tend to put others first all the time and yet leave ourselves out in the cold like we don't deserve anything good to happen to us.

I remember getting a message on Facebook. The lady said... Please pray for me, then she went on to say that nothing good happens to her anyways and if it did it would only turn into something bad. My heart was broken as I read her words. SHE DIDN"T LOVE HERSELF.. at all. Life had given her so many negative hurts that she thought the rest of her life was going to be like that even though she was asking for prayer.

Don't get caught in the trap, no matter what you have done, there is HOPE.... Hope for a better life. You may be at the Crossroads of life right now and don't know which way to turn, which decision to make, so you don't make any and just wallow in your miserable life hoping that one day it will change. IT WILL ONLY CHANGE when you decide to make it change and make the right CHOICES in life.

Satan is out to kill, steal and destroy you... with some he is succeeding. You are miserable, sad and lonely even though you may be in a marriage with a houseful of kids and a family around you. IT IS TIME for change in your life. CHOOSE TODAY to have a better life. Time goes by way too fast and one day you will be that person with aches and pains, maybe not being able to get around too well and only wish you could go back and do things differently ... WELL TODAY YOU CAN..

IT IS YOUR CHOICE

And you are not alone. Message us and we will pray for you and send you a Bible. Take one day at a time, give your life to Christ and let Him show you how much He really loves you. I often think of His love when He died on the Cross for me. Honestly I don't know anyone who would do that for me these days, but He did it for me and for you.

We also have other books available that will be sent to you free to read and learn the many situations that I have been through and learned that I was not alone even though I deserved never to be loved as much as the Lord cared for me. He can do that for you too. We also have HEALING OIL that will be mailed to you free. It is the same recipe that was used in the Bible Days and it works, just rub it on to

the pain and within a few days you will find relief. GOD IS SO GOOD..

My address is here so please feel free to contact me or write me on messenger on facebook or our website.

Know that we will be praying for you and that you are loved, no matter what you have done or are doing. You are SPECIAL.

Have a Wonderful Day..

Hannah

SCRIPTURES

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

- 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
- 3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
- 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Joshua 24:15

King James Version

15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

John 3

King James Version

3 There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:

2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

9 Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?

- 10 Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?
- 11 Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness.
- 12 If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?
- 13 And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.
 - 14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:
 - 15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

- 16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
- 17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.
- 18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.
- 19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.
- 20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved.

- 21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.
- 22 After these things came Jesus and his disciples into the land of Judaea; and there he tarried with them, and baptized.
- 23 And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized.
 - 24 For John was not yet cast into prison.
- 25 Then there arose a question between some of John's disciples and the Jews about purifying.
- 26 And they came unto John, and said unto him, Rabbi, he that was with thee beyond Jordan, to whom thou barest witness, behold, the same baptizeth, and all men come to him.

- 27 John answered and said, A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven.
- 28 Ye yourselves bear me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before him.
- 29 He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled.
 - 30 He must increase, but I must decrease.
- 31 He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all.
 - 32 And what he hath seen and heard, that he testifieth; and no man receiveth his testimony.
- 33 He that hath received his testimony hath set to his seal that God is true.

34 For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him.

35 The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.

36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

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