Direction

Level 4 Lesson 11

Teens

* Introduction

Now what? Where do I go from here? I don't know what to do with my life! What career will I have? What will I do for God? Who will I marry? Where will I live? Every teenager goes through these times of decision-making.

* Lesson

*Mat 6:25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?*

*Mat 6:26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?*

*Mat 6:27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?*

*Mat 6:28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:*

*Mat 6:29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.*

*Mat 6:30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?*

*Mat 6:31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?*

*Mat 6:32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.*

*Mat 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*

*Mat 6:34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.*

This is not to say that we don’t make plans for our life, but we cannot let these things consume us. We don’t have to stress over these decisions if we put God first in our lives. By the way, “first” means first.

*Psa 37:23 The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.*

*Psa 37:24 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand.*

*Psa 37:25 I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.*

When God is happy with us, we need not worry about a thing. He orders our steps! How can we go wrong? One just needs to keep in contact with Him about their direction. Listen when He talks to you. Sometimes He speaks in a still small voice, so you have to be tuned in and listening. Sometimes we pride ourselves in “doing our own thing.” When we are “doing our own thing,” He is not ordering our steps. We have to be a follower, at least a follower of Jesus.

To be used of God we must make ourselves available. When we fill every moment and every thought with our own agenda, we don’t have room for God’s plans. We must put Him first. Wow! This is a bigger deal than we think. God needs to be: first in our thoughts, first in our plans, first in our day, first in our money, and first in all of our decisions.

To marry a great person, you need to **be** a great person. Failed? Start right now to rebuild your character and reputation. Repentance is a wonderful thing! Repentance is not a torture; it is a wonderful tool to get us on track.

There are many occupations in this world of ours, but what does God want us to do? We must find out. He knows! With each occupation is a different set of trials and temptations. That is why we must know that God is involved. A job can come between you and your God. He knows the beginning from the ending, so let’s let Him lead! Temptations come in many forms. We need God to help us sort them out. Follow Him…you won’t run off the trail. Follow Him…you won’t run into a wolf! Follow Him…you won’t go the wrong direction!

There are many positions open in the Kingdom of God to be filled, but we must prepare. If you want to be an accountant, you must take math classes in high school, and you must do well in those classes. Then, you must go to a college that has an accounting program. Then, you must study very hard to pass an examination to get your CPA’s license. Then, you need to get a job! Then, you must please clients. Sounds like a lot of work, but the rewards are a great paycheck and job security.

It is amazing how people think that they need to give their life to prepare for a great career, but never think that they should have to prepare to be used of God. They assume that their calling will just fall on them, and they will have everything they need.

The world ahead of you is an exciting place! It is also a breeding ground of fear.

Fear of failure, fear of the unknown, fear of not being good enough after you have put forth much money, time, and effort; fear of ridicule from others. The list goes on. Remember, God is not the author of fear!!! Find His plan, and you have nothing to fear.

One of the most important things is to not proceed in a direction that you are not sure of.

We must find the will of God in all we do. Jobs, marriage, purchases, ministry, all of life's decisions need to be in the will of God.

How do we find the will of God?

Great question! Start seeking the will of God early. Pray about your career when you are young. If you are horrible in math, it is a wise deduction that you probably will not be an engineer. If you hate to write, journalism is probably not your calling. In those areas that you are strong, work hard to perfect your natural talents. Make yourself ready! If you will someday be the Music director of a great church, it probably will not happen if you never have a lesson, play an instrument, or sing in church. Prepare as if you were trying to become a doctor! Lots of hard work will find you right where you are meant to be.

Pray consistently for the will of God in your life. Get alone with God. Church prayer meetings are wonderful, but you need some undistracted time alone with your God. You need time where you may talk to Him and He may talk to you. Don't be in a hurry. This is important stuff! Read your Bible! Your Bible! Make sure you have your own personal mind of God. It is different than just picking up someone else's Bible, or reading the Bible on your phone, etc. Get a relationship with your Bible. Fasting is a great way to get God’s attention, and your attention. Don't forget to couple your prayer with fasting. One important thing about finding the will of God in your life: It is not always your will. Sometimes we try to run from God’s will. That is a very unsafe place to be. Remember Jonah? One thing you can be sure of is that if it is Gods will for you, He will enable you to accomplish the job.

Why not pray and seek God's will before you ever meet that girl or boy? You are a bit late if you start dating and then decide to pray about it. Don't go out with someone ever, if you feel as though you would never marry them. Don't go out with them at all if you feel a check in your Spirit. If you don't have the Spirit....Get it!!!! These decisions are far too important to leave to chance.

In the multitude of counsel there is safety.

Your buddy is probably not your best counselor. They will want to please you. They are too close to the situation to be objective. A Spiritual counselor is our best ally. If they "prophesy against your wishes" you'd best take heed.

“You never prophesy good for me”....that is probably the one true prophet.

Don't try to bully your spiritual leader into telling you what you want to hear.

Want to start a new business? Do research. Can you make a profit? Will the business go over in your area? Can you get the required products to your location? How about shipping your products efficiently? Is the market almost outdated? Wow! So much to think about!!!!! What? It looks as if you can't make it in this business, but you have spent much time with God and feel a direct confirmation from Him to go ahead. Then don't worry one bit! His report is true! Does the research prove that your idea would be a booming success, but you feel a still, small voice check your spirit? Or your pastor firmly says, “I wouldn't do that if I were you." Uh oh!!!! Run from that plan and never look back!

Don't leave yourself open to any options that God doesn't approve of.

* Activity

This would be a good time to write some goals for your future. You may do this activity many ways. Write your natural strengths down. Do any of these strengths interest you? Maybe you could see a direction to start working toward. Maybe list some ways that you could prepare for your future now.

List some prayers that you need to pray for your future.

List some things that you know are a waste of your precious time.

List some people that might make good counselors in the future.