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The  
**CROSSWORD**  
of  
***DECISION-MAKING***  
***in the will of God***

The component action steps  
and prayers of a follower of  
Jesus Christ seeking God's  
will for their daily choices.

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## *The **CROSSWORD** of Decision-Making*

For those who have become followers of Jesus Christ, it is very important that we grow in our ability to understand and do the will of God in our daily lives. Often people are either stuck in indecision or misled into bad choices.

While we may want our communication with God to be as clear as it someday will be in heaven, for now we must walk by faith. This journey is one of trusting in God's revelation of Himself through His Word and His Holy Spirit. Good decisions come as we regularly live out the nine components of waiting on God presented in this booklet.

The summary of the action steps are found on the right side of this page. Why not give it a quick overview?

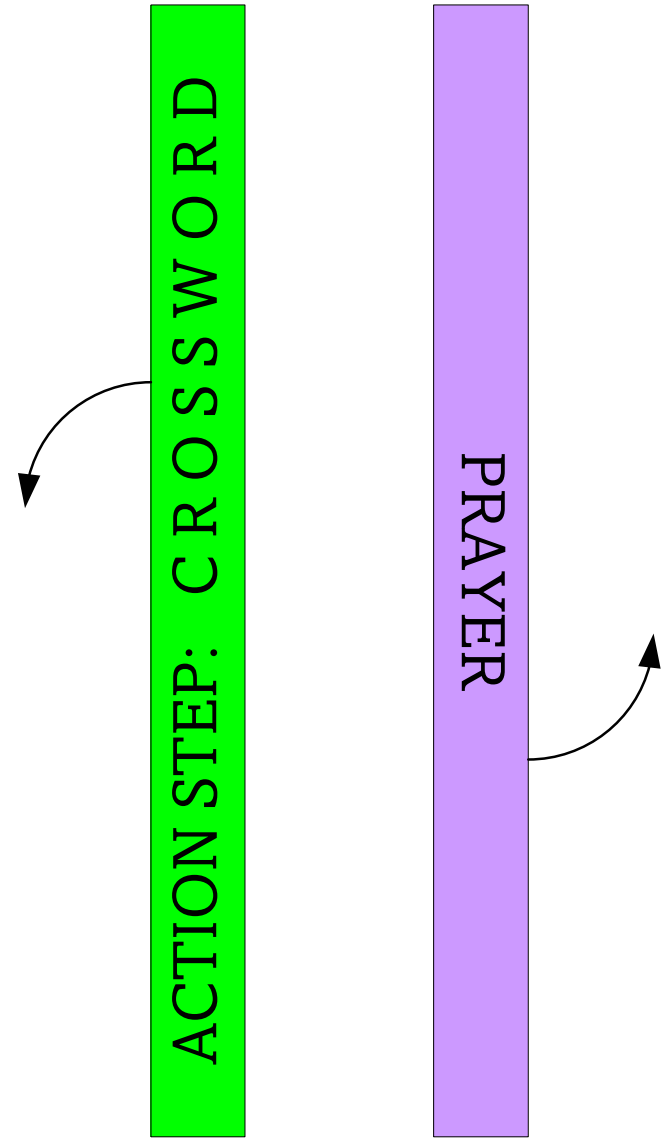
<b>C</b>	A person who has <b>COMMITTED</b> themselves to Christ,
<b>R</b>	<b>RESTS</b> in the providence of God's control,
<b>O</b>	<b>OPERATES</b> through the filling of the Holy Spirit,
<b>S</b>	<b>STUDIES</b> the Bible well,
<b>S</b>	<b>SITS</b> and reflects on the applications the Spirit prompts,
<b>W</b>	Faithfully makes sure the <b>WORD</b> is <b>APPLIED</b> ,
<b>O</b>	Remains <b>OPEN TO</b> the <b>LEAD</b> of the Spirit,
<b>R</b>	And is willing to use <b>REASON</b> while praying for wisdom,
<b>D</b>	Can go ahead and confidently <b>DECIDE</b> .

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What follows are two concepts per action step: The left side of the page giving a brief description and the right side a suggested prayer.

The quest of knowing God's leading is not some multi-stepped formula. Rather, it is the outworking of a relationship with One who loves us deeply and yearns for us to know Him and His will for us.

As you prayerfully come to seek God, He will meet you. May this guide help you to listen clearly to His leading. And then, may you have the courage to trust and obey!



***Commit* your life to Jesus  
Christ as your personal  
Savior and Lord.**

If you have committed your life, rejoice and reaffirm who you are in Christ and that all your security and significance comes from His finished work of salvation for you.

If you do not understand what God has done for you and how to become a Christian, talk with an evangelical pastor or consider reading the booklet, "It's God's Work But Our Choice" (The Eight Panels). You can check it out at Trinity Fellowship's website at [TRINITYINFO.ORG](http://TRINITYINFO.ORG)

***I wait upon You,  
O Lord & Savior.***

It is to You  
that I have **committed** my life.

I have taken my feeble crown off  
of my head and have put myself  
under the crown of the  
Lord Jesus Christ.

I did this by turning away from  
my rebellious sin and trusting in  
what God, who came in flesh, did  
for me and will do for me  
through His life, death,  
resurrection, ascension, and  
coming again.

**Rest in the  
sovereignty of God**

by making a worry list of the things that are causing fretting or even panic in your life.

Give those things to God in prayer.

Spend time worshiping Him for His character as the basis for your sense of peace.

***I wait upon You,  
O Sovereign One.***

I find rest for my soul knowing that You are my help and my shield.

(Psalm 33:20)

I will not fret.  
Nor despair.  
Nor allow my soul  
to be disturbed within me.

My hope is in the Lord.

(Psalm 42:5, 11)

**Operate in the Spirit.**

Ask the Holy Spirit to fill you  
and thereby direct and control  
you.

If you do not understand  
how to do this,  
consider reading the booklet,  
“Live as a Christian”  
(The A-E-I-O-U Booklet).  
You can check it out at  
Trinity Fellowship’s website at  
[TRINITYINFO.ORG](http://TRINITYINFO.ORG)

***I wait upon You,  
O Holy Spirit.***

In my own strength  
I grow tired and weary.

But as I wait upon You and learn  
to **operate** through Your filling  
of my life, I find new strength.

(Isaiah 40:31)

I choose each day to be directed  
and empowered by You.

(Ephesians 5:18-19)

Produce Your fruit within me so  
that the character of my life  
reflects You as  
the spring of life-giving water.

## **Study the Word of God.**

Using concordances (which list every occurrence of a word in the Bible), topical Bible dictionaries (which put many passages that deal with the same subject in one place), the counsel of Bible scholars (whom you know or whom you can read), list out all of the passages that relate to the decision you are facing.

Categorize the passages based on how directly they address your concern. Make sure that you study each passage (especially the key ones) in their own context so that you are not reading into them what you want to see.

***I wait upon You,  
O Giver of Truth.***

As I **study**  
Your Holy Word,  
I wait for  
Your ordinances.

Lead me in Your truth  
and teach me,  
for You are the God  
of my salvation

(Psalm 25:5)

**Sit and ask the Spirit to help you welcome the truth into your life.**

Ask the Spirit what the passages you have studied address.

Do they address sins that need to be repented of? Action steps that need to be followed through with? Promises that need to be the foundation of your hope?

How can these applications steps fit into your life? If you are already following the truth, praise God for His grace in helping you. If you need to change, ask Him to show you specifics of the changes you are to make.

***I wait upon You,  
O Illuminator of my life.***

I choose to **sit** quietly and ponder how the truth of Your Word applies to my life.

Even when the Truth convicts me of my sin, I continue to wait on You and to put my hope in Your word because with You there is forgiveness. This is what awes me most about You.

(Psalm 130:4,5)

I do not need to fear the light that shows forth the darkness in my life, but I can welcome it because of who You are. Your love, that is always faithful to Your covenant with me, is my hope.

Now that you have  
you understood,  
**make sure that the**  
**Word is applied.**

Write out the specific application and  
share it with  
a brother or sister in Christ.

They can pray for you and graciously  
hold you accountable to putting feet to  
your intentions.

They are not there to judge you but to  
help you win and to get up when you  
fall down.

**I wait upon You,  
O Enabler of  
Righteousness.**

Only through Your strength  
could I ever make the applications  
You have shown me.

I am not overwhelmed with the  
changes You are calling on me to  
make. Rather, as I wait on You,  
I am filled with courage and  
strength to become who You have  
made me to be by seeing  
the Word applied in my life.

Thank You for helping me to be a  
doer of Your Word  
and not a hearer only.

(Psalm 27:14, 31:24)

## Being *Open* to the Lead of the Spirit is exciting and dangerous.

What a privilege that God would get so up close and personal that He would lead us in our everyday concerns.

But how dangerous because we are so easily misled by our emotions, as well as demons who dress up in nice outfits.

God may speak to us through other brothers and sisters who have been so gifted. He may speak in that quiet inner voice. We must quiet ourselves and be open to His leading. But we must not demand that He treat us as little kids whom He has not raised to make good choices ourselves. And we should be careful to compare what we believe is His leading to what He has taught in His Word.

## I wait upon You, O One-Who-Comes-Alongside.

I wait quietly and open myself to the lead of Spirit.

I am listening only to You, though You may speak in many ways.

Though I greatly yearn for Your leading, I will not seek it in ways contrary to Your Word. I will not pretend that You have declared something and merely put my hope in the fulfillment of my word.

I am open but I also know I can be misled by the enemies of darkness so lead me in a straight path for Your name's sake.

(Psalm 5:8, 27:11)

**Reason is the gift  
of God as well.**

As we have waited upon  
God's Word and His Spirit,  
we are developing a renewed mind  
and conscience that will help us to  
make a God-honoring decision.

Pray that God would give you the  
wisdom He has promised. Weigh  
out the choices you have and how  
they compare to your desires.

Consider the impact of your  
decision on others, especially their  
spiritual development. Seek the  
counsel of others, especially those  
who have the gifts of wisdom or  
discernment.

**I wait upon You, O  
Fountain of All  
Wisdom.**

I accept my responsibility to make  
decisions and to live with the  
consequences of them.

I trust that as I have waited upon You that  
You have renewed my conscience and  
have shown me any sins  
that I need to confess and repent of.

I am confident that You have renewed my  
mind through Your truth applied to my  
life. So now I wait and ask for wisdom  
to make the decision I face  
with **reason** that would please You.

I ask in faith, not being double-minded  
but assured of Your help  
because I trust in Your character.

(James 1:5-8)

*Decide.*

Do not be faithless but act on what God has shown you through His Word, His Spirit, and your renewed reasoning.

If you have great uncertainty, and if the consequences of the decision will be huge and unchangeable, you may decide to wait upon the Lord further. With smaller decisions and those that have “escape hatches” you should be far bolder (assuming you’ve waited on God using the pattern described above).

**I wait upon You,  
O Judge of the Ages.**

Having waited upon You I am free to make the decision and to act upon what I believe is the right choice. Even in my choice I am wholly dependent upon You.

As You have lead me by Your Word and Your Spirit thus far, now give me courage and boldness.

If I have erred in my decision or the timing of it, please put a desire within me to wait upon You further. If this choice is one which I must make today, let me wait upon You by eagerly expecting Your provision as I **decide.**