



STUDY GUIDE April 16, 2023

**Message Series:** Now What?  
**Message Title:** It's Time to Decide  
**Teaching Pastor:** Angie Frame

**Warm-up/Icebreaker:** (10 min).

Pastor Angie talked about how we make thousands of decisions each day, "Researchers at Cornell University estimate we make 226.7 decisions each day on food alone." let's add some to the mix with these rapid fire, one answer questions:

- Cake or pie?
- Favorite carnival food?
- Dark Chocolate or Milk Chocolate?
- Sour Patch Kids or Swedish Fish?
- What's your favorite carb: bread, pasta, rice, or potatoes?

**Pray:**

Dear Lord, there is nothing greater than time spent with You and with others growing in understanding of Your love and grace. Thank You for this time to pause and learn. Life has a way of distracting us and sometimes beating us down but You lift us up and show us the way, putting us on the best path. We pray Your Holy Spirit will continue to reveal Your truths to us about what we ought to decide to do and where we decide to go, essentially guiding us on how we decide to live....may it be that we live for You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**Get Started:** (20 min.)

- Describe a time or situation in which you made a poor decision? How has it affected you? On the flip-side, share one of your best decisions.

*"When it comes to who and what we believe—if we believe—some make rash, impulsive decisions that they don't really understand and don't stick with. Others put off making a choice. It's gotten so complicated—there are so many options about world religions and ideologies, and even if we decide on Jesus, then we have to choose what kind of church and Bible and worship style—it's too much. We're done. We just can't make one more weighty, complicated, long-lasting decision."* - Pastor Angie Frame

- Can you relate to this? What has been your experience in deciding to follow Jesus? Or if you haven't decided yet, is what Pastor Angie described part of what is causing your hesitancy?

*"We celebrate the monumental event when Jesus defeated death. Now what? That was last Sunday's celebration. This is a new day. Now, it's time to Decide. To decide if we really believe that Jesus defeated death, that he came back to life then, and lives now. And if we do, then what does it mean for us? It's time to decide if we will accept the life he offers us here, in this world, and forever, with him."* - Pastor Angie Frame

**Read Ephesians 5:1-2 and Colossians 3:12-14.**

- What makes it possible for us to imitate God?

**Watch and Discuss Video** (running time 9 minutes, 15 minute discussion)

- Have you ever ended up in a situation where you asked yourself, “How did I get here?” Share briefly.

**Read Philippians 2:12.**

- What does it personally mean to you to work out your salvation with fear and trembling?

**Reflect and Commit:** (20 min.)

**Read John 14:6-7.**

- What is Jesus trying to convey to his disciples about why He came and what He offered people?

**Read John 14:8-14.**

- Jesus said we will do “even greater things.” What do you think He meant by that?

*“Jesus describes it like this: I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. John 10:10b That’s why Jesus came here, so that they—that’s you and me and everyone in the world throughout history—so that we can have life and have it to the full. That’s where we get the language for the mission of our church: PCC exists to reach people who don’t go to church, so that we can all experience the fullest lives possible through Jesus. That’s our purpose, because it was Jesus’ self-stated reason for coming to earth—so that we can not just have minimal, bare, sparse life—but maximum, abundant, full life.” - Pastor Angie Frame*

**Gather prayer requests and pray.** (5-10 min.)

God, we believe that You defeated death. Thank You for making a way for us to have eternal life with You and also to enjoy a full, abundant life right here. We don’t deserve any of that, and we can’t earn it. We accept the gift of grace that You offer to us and surrender our lives to You. You are Lord; We are not. We decide to follow You forever, no matter what. Help us to imitate You and love well. We trust You and anticipate that we will do great things in Your name. Amen.