

WHAT TO DO BEFORE MAKING A BIG DECISION

By: Fountain Hendricks

Luke 14:28-30

Big decisions should **NOT** be made under the influence of emotion. When you are in the process of making these types of decisions it is imperative that you take time and exhibit tremendous patience. **PATIENCE** is your greatest asset when you are about to make a big decision.

Patience helps you to see potential possibilities and problems that you will overlook if you did not take your time. Patience will aid you in planning effectively. People who refuse to exhibit patience while making a big decision end up making their biggest mistake.

**A BIG DECISION IS TOO BIG TO MAKE
QUICKLY!**

IT'S TOO BIG

People who purchase a house usually do not buy the first house they see. They look at a variety of factors that helps them make the decision. They look at the **INTERNAL** structure of the house and also the **EXTERNAL** variables of where the house sits.

Before a person considers buying a house they examine the foundation of the house, the make and model, the architecture, the neighborhood, the landscape and so much more. Why do you think people take their time to buy a house? It is a **BIG DECISION**.

When it comes to a house people understand that the house does not primarily affect them but it affects their family, peace, finances, stress level, comfort, morale, joy, mentality and lifestyle. Buying a house is a big purchase because it impacts a lot of things in your life.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MINOR AND MAJOR DECISIONS

Minor decisions impacts **YOU**. Major decisions impacts **YOU AND THOSE AROUND YOU**. If possible, you need to reduce the major decisions you will have to make in life. Making major decisions consistently **REDUCES** stability for yourself and those around you.

For example, changing jobs frequently **DE-STABILIZES** the lifestyle for yourself and your family. Changing Pastors at your church frequently **DE-STABILIZES** the quality of teaching that the congregants receive every Sunday. Changing the leadership at an organization frequently **DE-STABILIZES** the culture of a work place.

Major decisions produce major changes. Unfortunately, those changes are not always good nor easy to adjust to. Ever so often you will need to make a major decision but this should **NOT** be a routine.

People who reduce the amount of making major decisions live a stable, secure, safe and predictable life. There is nothing wrong with living a predictable life when you are seeking stability!

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Jesus said it best. Luke 14:28-30 says, *"If you want to build a tower, you first sit down and decide how much it will cost, to see if you have enough money to finish the job. If you don't, you might lay the foundation, but you would not be able to finish. Then all who would see it would make fun of you, saying, this person began to build but was not able to finish."*

Before you make a big decision **COUNT UP THE COST**. The cost is not only relegated to money but **GIVING**. Can you afford to give what is required? In other words, can you afford the **SACRIFICE**?

When people buy a house, sacrifice is required. when people leave a job, sacrifice is required. When people get a divorce, sacrifice is required. Can you afford the **SACRIFICE** when making a big decision?

When making a **BIG** decision these factors are at risk of decreasing or increasing.

- Happiness
- Finances
- Favor
- Stress
- Comfort
- Effort
- Peace
- Patience
- Responsibility
- Health
- Stability
- Worry
- Contentment

Unfortunately, when people make big decisions they very rarely consider **ALL** of these attributes. They consider some yet ignoring most. When you refuse to take a **LONG** look at these attributes and see how they will play a part in your decision you will end up making your biggest mistake while making your biggest decision.

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