

American Idols: War

Joshua 24:14-15

"As for me and my family, we will worship Yahweh."

- Joshua 24:15

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

Aside from choosing to follow Christ, what is the most significant, life-altering choice you have made?

Why was this choice so significant? How might your life be different if you had made a different choice?

Some choices we make in life are game changers—choices that affect the rest of our lives. When you make a courageous choice in your life, sometimes you have to put a stake in the ground and declare it, even if it's unpopular, and even if the outcome is unknown. Joshua 24 describes Joshua's challenge to Israel to make one such choice. He called them to choose to exclusively worship and serve the God who had brought them into the Promised Land. Joshua also made clear that no matter how they responded to this choice, their lives would never be the same.

It's important to know that **CHOOSING GOD MEANS SERVING GOD.** (v.14-15)

Actions tend to prove the value of our words. We know this but somehow we ignore it when it comes to matters of faith. *How would you view a family member or co-worker who does not do what they have said they will do? What does it say about Christians when we do the same?*

God had been faithful to the Hebrew people for generations at this point in Joshua's life. He had witnessed first hand the power of God. Read **Joshua 24:1-13**. *Why is it so hard for us to fully commit to God today the way Joshua did? What do you find yourself serving besides the Lord?*

What changes might you need to make in your house and family in order to serve the Lord exclusively?

Before deciding to live for God it is important to realize that **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SERVING GOD.** (v.15)

God has given us the choice to serve Him or not to serve Him. *Why do you believe God left such an important decision up to us?*

Read Elijah's words in **1 Kings 18:21**. *What choice are we making when we "say nothing" like the Israelites did here?*

In what area(s) of your life are you wavering between God and the world? Name one thing you could do as a marking point in your life to commit to God and serve Him in this area. Write it below.

The final thing you need to know before deciding to live for God is **GOD DEMANDS A DECISION**. (v. 15)

Read **Revelation 3:14-20**. *What happens to those who are indecisive about following God? What do you think God means by that?*

According to v.19, if we are receiving discipline in our life what does it imply? How is God loving you right now, and how can we help each other repent (turn away from) our sin?

Looking at it from another angle, if the Lord is NOT dealing with your heart might that mean He has "spit you out?" If so, is it too late to make a decision? Why or why not?

How would your life be different today if you hadn't chosen Jesus?

Pray:

Close your meeting with a time of prayer. Pray that the Lord would speak to you concerning your decision to follow Him. Ask Him for strength to live out your commitment each day so others would know Him through you. Confess those sins you have been trying to hide and let God clean out the junk in your life that is keeping you from Him. If you've not made a decision to follow Christ, take this opportunity seriously and pray that God would lead you to the truth.

Connect:

Assuming you believe the Bible to be true, make a list of pros and cons below for choosing to follow Jesus. What do you find? If you have questions or doubts about choosing Christ, call the church today and set up a meeting with one of the pastors at Village.