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Read This Week’s Passage:
Deuteronomy 30:15–20

The Choice is Yours

CHOOSE LIFE

If you are planning to be a parent one day or if you already have children, you must understand the importance of boundaries. Rules and guidelines exist to help the child learn what’s right and wrong, safe and dangerous, and later, what makes life good, productive, and worth living. As children get older and their intellectual abilities increase, so does the need to explain more of the rules. Parents can require obedience from their children up to a certain age, but children eventually gain the freedom to choose whether to obey. At that point, all parents can do is appeal to their children to make the right kinds of choices based on trust.

In Moses’ final days as the aged leader and spiritual father of Israel, he gave a series of sermons, recorded in the book of Deuteronomy, in which he laid out Israel’s history and God’s covenant stipulations, explaining in detail why a life with God is worth the commitment. As he concluded, he made a final appeal to His people, pointing out the two choices they had: life or death, good or evil. He urged them to choose life, to choose God, to choose love. God has no interest in forced relationships and mandated faithfulness. Only when we choose life, when we choose love and everything it entails, is true life—yes, eternal life—possible, and only then can all creatures be in harmony with each other and with their Creator.

This week’s study focuses on the concept of freedom of choice in the context of the great controversy.
Write out Deuteronomy 30:15–20 from the translation of your choice. If you’re pressed for time, write out verse 19. You may also rewrite the passage in your own words, or outline or mind-map the chapter.
Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

- **Circle** repeated words/phrases/ideas
- **Underline** words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you
- Draw **Arrows** to connect words/phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?

Memorize your favorite verse. Write it out multiple times to help memorization.

What’s your life’s trajectory right now? Which destiny are you moving toward?

Why is freedom of choice so important to God? Is true freedom limited? Why or why not?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/GC03-3
After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks overall seem to point to?

What questions emerge after studying this week’s passage?
What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

How has God shown you that He’s worthy of your devotion and allegiance?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/GC03-4
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What relationship do the following verses have with Deuteronomy 30:15–20?

Mark 12:30, 31
Psalm 27:1
Joshua 24:14–28
Genesis 3:1–4
John 14:6
John 3:16

What other verses/promises come to mind in connection with the primary passage?

Meditate on Deuteronomy 30:15–20 again and look for where Jesus is.

What is Jesus saying to you through the main text?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

How have you experienced Jesus’ life-giving and life-changing presence in the last few weeks and months?

Prayer Response:
Review the memory verse. How does it apply to your life this week?

After this week’s study of the passage, which trajectory are you choosing day to day? Life or death?

How will your daily decision for Christ impact your interactions with people in your life?

Read more inSight from the Spirit of Prophecy at www.inversebible.org/GC03-7
Share insights from this week’s memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.

What are some examples of choices that lead to life versus choices that lead to death? (Deut. 30:15–19)

How can we reconcile the idea of God’s sovereignty with the idea of individual choice?

How do the consequences of our choices affect not only us but also our communities and future generations?

Is there such a thing as too much freedom?

Why is it impossible for God to offer His creatures eternity without His presence?

How have you seen God bless those who are committed to Him?

How can we explain why it often seems like those who don’t follow God are blessed more than those who serve Him?

How many of God’s blessings are for now, and how many of them are for the future?