

Decision Making – What would you do?

“What would you do?” problems focus on principles of faithful decision making. They can be introduced into almost any Sunday school lesson with any age group. Give your students practice with well-chosen examples. And be sure to give the children time to think about a problem before telling you what they would do. Teach them to think before they act.

“What would you do?” problems also make good Bible learning center activities. Let the children work on one or two, individually or in small groups, after the main lesson has been taught. Monitor their progress.

Cheater! What would you do?

Bob copies your homework and turns it in. The teacher notices that you have exactly the same answers and gives both of you an F.

- 1 – What will you say to Bob about this?
- 2 – How do you expect him to respond?
- 3 – What affect will this have on your relationship with him?

After you and Bob settle the matter, you tell his parents that you got an F when he copied your homework. His parents ground him for two weeks.

- 4 – Why did you do this?
- 5 – How will Bob respond?
- 6 – How will this affect your relationship with him?
- 7 – Will you do anything more about it?

Look at the biblical principles of forgiveness below. How do they apply?

Principles of Forgiveness

Matthew 5:7

Matthew 5:23-26

Matthew 5:43-45

Matthew 6:12, 14-15

Matthew 18:15-18

Matthew 18:21-22

Matthew 18:23-35

- Take action right away to address the issue.
- Do not judge (condemn) the offending person, but show your concern for them.
- You can and should judge the action that occurred.
- You can and should expect repentance on the part of the offending person. This means an acknowledgement of the wrong and a promise to do better in the future. The issue can end here.
- You must be ready to forgive again, if necessary.
- You must be ready to overcome evil with good.