**Choice**

**Choose you this day who you will serve!**

***(Joshua 24:15)***

**Because we live in the modern age, women now have many choices: They can have a job or not have a job. They can be married or unmarried, married with children, married with children and a job, unmarried with children and no job, unmarried with children who themselves have jobs, etc. “Men, unfortunately, have the same choice we’ve always had: we can work or we can go to jail.” *(Tim Allen, in Don’t Stand Too Close to a Naked Man)***

**More than any other time in history, mankind faces a crossroads. One path leads to despair and utter hopelessness. The other, to total extinction. Let us pray we have the wisdom to choose correctly. *(Woody Allen)***

**I don't consider fat a disease. I mean, c'mon, who had the gun to my head? Nobody! What gene in my body says I have to eat four cakes instead of two? It's a choice. *(Kirstie Alley, American actress)***

**There are always two choices, two paths to take. One is easy, and that is its only reward. *(Land Title Guarantee Company calendar)***

**You don’t get to choose how you’re going to die. Or when. You can only decide how you’re going to live. NOW. *(Joan Baez)***

**If a woman has to choose between catching a fly ball and saving an infant’s life, she will choose to save the infant’s life without even considering if there is a man on base. *(Dave Barry)***

**When one of our school’s jocks began goofing off in class, the teacher threatened him with detention after school if he didn't shape up. “But I have baseball practice!” the boy protested. “Listen, mister,” she replied, “you have a choice of which bat you're going to spend the afternoon with. Choose wisely!” *(Conci Pope, in Reader's Digest)***

**God asks no man whether he will accept life. That is not the choice. You must take it. The only choice is how. *(Henry Ward Beecher)***

**Between two evils, choose neither; between two goods, chose both. *(Tyron Edwards)***

**The reason people blame things on previous generations is that there's only one other choice. *(Doug Larson, United Feature Syndicate)***

**Destiny is not a matter of chance; it is a matter of choice. It is not a thing to be waited for; it is a thing to be achieved. *(William Jennings Bryan)***

**History is moving, and it will tend toward hope, or tend toward tragedy. *(George W. Bush, United States President)***

**There always comes a time when one must choose between contemplation and action. *(Albert Camus)***

**My 16-year-old brother, Ryan, was out late with friends one night. Suddenly he realized it was Father’s Day and he had neglected to buy a card for our dad. After much searching, Ryan located an open store, but was disappointed to find only two cards left on a picked-over rack. Selecting one, he brought it home and, somewhat sheepishly, presented it to our father. Upon opening it, Dad read this message: “You’ve been like a father to me.” He looked at Ryan, puzzled. “Well, Dad,” Ryan tried to explain. “It was either that or the card that said, ‘Now that I’m a father too . . .’” *(Anne Carlson, in Reader’s Digest)***

The block of marble, which is an obstacle on the path of the weak, becomes a stepping-stone on the path of the strong. *(Thomas Carlyle, Scottish essayist and historian)*

**Daughter: “What’s that carpenter doing, Mom?” Mom: “Several months ago I told your father he had two choices: either lose weight, or have the front door widened.” *(Chris Browne, in Hagar the Horrible comic strip)***

**Does it ever amaze and delight you that of all the places in the world – cool grassy nests under hedgerows, warm patches of sun on a carpet – the cat chooses to sit on your lap? *(Nevada Barr, in Seeking Enlightenment)***

**A thought to remember: Whichever checkout line you choose, the other one always moves faster. *(Reminisce magazine)*The difference between a cute little rascal and a potential juvenile delinquent is whether he is your child or somebody else's. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**You and I are essentially infinite choice-makers. In every moment of our existence, we are in that field of all possibilities where we have access to an infinity of choices. *(Dr. Deepak Chopra)***

**The executive was interviewing a young woman for a position in his company. He wanted to find out something about her personally so he asked, “If you could have a conversation with someone, living or dead, who would it be?” The woman quickly responded, “The living one.” *(Rocky Mountain News)*
In basic training at Fort Benning, Ga., a soldier received a package from home containing cookies. After roll call, the drill sergeant gave the trainee the choice of throwing the cookies out or eating them while he did one-arm push-ups. To our surprise, he chose the latter. As we watched in amazement, the soldier looked up and said through a mouthful of cookies, “This is a breeze compared to what my mother would do if she heard I threw her cookies out.” *(Scott F. Gorski, in Reader's Digest)***

**In all crises of human affairs there are two board courses open to a man. He can stay where he is or he can go elsewhere. *(P. G. Wodehouse, in First Things)***

There is a story told about the beginning of the Reformation. There was a man by the name of Martin of Basle. He came to a knowledge of the Truth, but he was very afraid to make a public confession. So he wrote on a leaf of parchment: “Oh merciful Christ, I know that I know the Truth, Oh Holy Jesus. I acknowledge Thy sufferings for me. I love Thee! I love Thee! I love Thee! Then, with this covenant he wrote in hand, he removed a stone from the wall of his chamber and hid it. It was not to be discovered for more than 200 years. About the same time, Martin Luther found the Truth as it is in Christ. He said out loud in a public area, “My Lord had shown mercy to me before men, and I will show mercy to men before kings.” The world knows what followed. We’ve all heard of Martin Luther but we have never heard of Martin of Basle. Why? They both wrote a covenant, but one put the covenant in a wall and the other lived it. *(Christopher Ian Chenoweth, Unity Minister)*

**The way you activate the seeds of your creation is by making choices about the results you want to create. When you make a choice, you mobilize vast human energies and resources which otherwise go untapped. All too often people fail to focus their choices upon results and therefore their choices are ineffective. If you limit your choices only to what seems possible or reasonable, you disconnect yourself from what you truly want and all that is left is a compromise. *(Robert Fritz)***

**An angel appears at a faculty meeting and tells the dean that in return for his unselfish and exemplary behavior, the Lord will reward him with his choice of infinite wealth, wisdom, or beauty. Without hesitating, the dean selects infinite wisdom. “Done!” says the angel, and disappears in a cloud of smoke and a bolt of lightning. Now, all heads turn toward the dean, who sits surrounded by a faint halo of light. At length, one of his colleagues whispers, “Say something.” The dean sighs and says, “I should have taken the money.” *(Tidbits)***

**A young woman was explaining to a friend why she had decided to marry one man rather than another. “When I was with John,” she said, “I thought he was the cleverest person in the whole world.” “Then why didn’t you choose him?” the puzzled friend asked. “Because when I’m with Sam, I think I’m the cleverest person in the whole world.” *(Pulpit Helps)***

**Both the hummingbird and the vulture fly over our nation’s deserts. All vultures see is rotting meat, because that is what they look for. They thrive on that diet. But hummingbirds ignore the smelly flesh of dead animals. Instead, they look for the colorful blossoms of desert plants. The vultures live on what was. They live on the past. They fill themselves with what is dead and gone. But hummingbirds live on what is. They seek new life. They fill themselves with freshness and life. Each bird finds what it is looking for. We all do. *(Steve Goodier, in Quote magazine)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****

**Hagar: “What’s for dinner, Helga?” Helga: “You have a choice of either stale bread and water or . . . going out for dinner!” Hagar then thinks to himself: “It’s always nice to have a choice!” *(Dik Browne, in Hagar the Horrible comic strip)***

**Air Fare: It was mealtime during our trip on a small airline in the Northwest. “Would you like dinner?” the flight attendant asked the man seated in front of me. “What are my choices?” he asked. “Yes and no,” she replied. *(Carolyn Yeargain, in Reader’s Digest)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****

**Discipline means choices. Every time you say yes to a goal or objective, you say no to many more. Every prize has its price. The prize is the yes; the price is the no. *(Sybil Stanton, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Be miserable. Or motivate yourself. Whatever has to be done, it is always your choice. *(Dr. Wayne Dyer)***

**One American put it this way: Every tomorrow has two handles. We can take hold of it with the handle of anxiety or the handle of faith. *(Dwight D. Eisenhower)***

**In elections, issues are more important than problems. Candidates should be most interested in those concerns that can be expressed in ways that show the public they have differing views, including views about social issues such as crime, welfare, educational discipline and race and gender preference. That offers the public a choice. Get elected by dividing. Govern by unifying. *(Ben J. Wattenberg, in Values Matter Most)***

**Faced with the choice between changing one’s mind and proving that there is no need to do so, almost everyone gets busy on the proof. *(John Kenneth Galbraith)***

**We do not have to choose our favorite among the seasons. It is only necessary to rejoice in the beauty of their differences. *(Evelyn H. Lauder, in The Seasons Observed)***

**Forgiveness is a choice. Forgive first – and then your heart can open. *(Dr. Rachel Naomi Remen)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**I shall be telling this with a sigh. Somewhere, ages and ages hence: Two roads diverged in a wood, and I - I took the one less traveled by. And that has made all the difference*. (Robert Frost)***

**Do not go where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail. *(Robert Frost)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**Servant: “Hagar, you drink too much. And you eat too much rich food! You have to give up one or the other!” Helga: “What did the doctor say?” Hagar: “He said I have to give up spinach and broccoli.” *(Dik Browne, in Hagar The Horrible comic strip)***

**If we had our way, most of us would choose the front of the bus, the back of the church and the center of attention. *(Arnold H. Glasow, in The Wall Street Journal)***

**Lord George Gordon Byron and Sir Walter Scott were gifted writers and poets who lived in the late 18thand early 19th centuries. They were both lame. Byron bitterly resented his infirmity and constantly grumbled about his lot in life. Scott was never heard to complain about his handicap. One day Scott received a letter from Byron which said, “I would give my fame to have your happiness.” What made the difference in their reactions to suffering and their attitudes toward their disabilities? Byron was known as a man of doubtful moral standards. Scott, on the other hand, led a courageous life that exemplified his high standards and values. *(Rev. Billy Graham, in ‘Til Armageddon)***

**The hammer shatters glass but forges steel. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Happiness is an attitude. We either make ourselves miserable, or happy and strong. The amount of work is the same. *(Francesca Reigler)***

**The necessity of choosing is ordained by the very nature of our being, and we cannot escape it. *(Dr. Ernest Holmes)***

**Dad: “How was your day today, Zoe?” Zoe: “Good.” Dad: “And how was your day, Honey?” Mom: “The washing machine overflowed, I got sixteen telemarketing calls, Hammie swallowed a marble, the bank lost our deposit, and I just broke our best serving bowl.” Dad then says to Zoe: “Tell me about your day again.” *(Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott, in Baby Blues comic strip)***

**A store that sells husbands has just opened in Dallas, Texas, where a woman may go to choose a husband from among many men. The store is comprised of 6 floors, and the men increase in positive attributes as the shopper ascends in floors. There is however a catch. As you open the door to any floor, you may choose a man from that floor, but if you go up a floor, you cannot go back down except to exit the building. So a woman goes to the shopping center to find a husband. On the first floor the sign on the door reads: Floor 1 – these men have jobs. She decides to see what is on the second floor. On the second floor the sign reads: Floor 2 – these men have jobs and love kids. She decides to see what is on the third floor. On the third floor the sign reads: Floor 3 – these men have jobs, love kids and are extremely good looking. Wow, so she goes to the fourth floor. On the fourth floor the sign reads: Floor 4 – these men have jobs, love kids, are extremely good looking and help with housework. Oh mercy me, she goes to the fifth floor. On the fifth floor the door reads: Floor 5 – these men have jobs, love kids, are extremely good looking, help with the housework, and have a strong romantic streak. She is so tempted she goes to the sixth floor and the sign reads: Floor 6 – you are visitor 3,456,012 to this floor. There are no men on this floor. This floor exists solely as proof that women are impossible to please. *(Tidbits of Denver)***

**In the face of unjust criticism we can become bitter or better; upset or understanding; hostile or humble; furious or forgiving. *(William Arthur Ward)***

**And then one day, the queen fell ill. The king frantically summoned his finest medical advisors. The king wept. The king prayed. The queen died. And the king changed. The fairy tale was finished. A nightmare was only beginning. For once upon a time, there was a king who threw himself into a life of dissipation and drunken revelry, who seized those who had been his friends and tortured them and impaled them on stakes and burned them alive, a sadistic beast of a man who murdered children, even his own. History almost forgot the saint he was, remembering instead the demon he became. For after thirteen years of glory and goodness, that nation's most benevolent ruler became its most evil. His mind, twisted by grief and determined to destroy the haunting memories, became in its torment the supreme instrument of destruction. But don't let it be forgotten -- that the kingdom bathed in blood was once wrapped in dreams. And that the king, more than a king, the czar of all Russia, with his bride by his side was Ivan the Wonderful. Only when she, Anastasia, was gone -- when the light in the czar's heart was extinguished forever -- the fiend that remained was Ivan the Terrible. (*Paul Aurandt, Destiny and 102 Other Real Life Mysteries, p. 240)***

**When you have to make a choice and don't make it, that is in itself a choice. *(William James)***

**Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter. *(Thomas Jefferson)***

**First jewelers, it’s said, chipped stones into shapes of animal teeth to make fake necklaces. Fake, because animal teeth were what decorated real necklaces. But there were those who preferred chipping rocks to pulling the teeth of tigers. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Sign in a farm-equipment dealer’s repair shop: “We have three types of jobs – Cheap, Quick and Good. You can have any two. A good quick job – won’t be cheap; a good job cheap – won’t be quick; a cheap job quick – won’t be good.” *(Quoted in Farmer’s Digest)***

**The absence of alternatives clears the mind marvelously. *(Henry A. Kissinger)***

**Tough Choice: Ed Koch, mayor of New York City, trying to decide which Democratic candidate he will support in 1982 for the Presidency: "If I support Ted Kennedy, there would be cruises, jet-set parties and long, lazy summers at Hyannis Port. If I were to support Fritz Mondale, there would be winter in Minnesota. It's a tough choice.” *(Time magazine)***

**During a rain-swept night, our flight touched down 40 minutes late. The plane bounced, then landed hard again, this time for good. As we taxied to the terminal, a voice came from the PA system: “Welcome to New York’s La Guardia Airport. By the way, the captain would like to know which one of those landings you liked best.” *(William Stockdale, in Reader’s Digest)*
How they chose their last names:**

**Nicholas Cage – from comic book character Luke Cage**

**Rock Hudson – from Hudson River**

# Michael York – from York brand cigarettes

**Lionel Barrymore – from an actor’s name on billboard**

**Edward G. Robinson – from name he heard in a play**

**Kirk Douglas – from Douglas Fairbanks Sr. *(World Features Syndicate)***

**During the Civil War, Robert E. Lee was offered command of the Union Army before he accepted his post with the Confederacy. *(David Louis, in Fascinating Facts, p. 179)***

**It was hard picking a winner after the presidential debate. Do you want the rich white guy who went to Yale and wears a red tie or the rich white guy who went to Yale and wears a blue tie? We have such choices in our country. *(Jay Leno)***

**Your life is the sum result of all the choices you make, both consciously and unconsciously. If you can control the process of choosing, you can take control of all aspects of your life. You can find the freedom that comes from being in charge of yourself. *(Robert F. Bennett)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****

**You have a choice. It may not be a choice you like, but it is still a choice. *(Dangerous Minds)***

**Pickles says to the other man: “You know what I’d like to do? Take a walk across America. A journey of discovery as I trek along the highways and byways, taking stock of a nation, its people and myself. Either that or learn to play the ukulele.” *(Brain Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****

**I would rather be a superb meteor, every atom of me in magnificent glow, than a sleepy and permanent planet. *(Jack London)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****

**It is so rare to be offered a meal on airlines these days that I was surprised to hear the flight attendant ask the man sitting in front of me, “Would you like dinner?” “What are my choices?” he responded. “Yes or no,” she said. *(Kervyn Dimney, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Mother to teen-age daughter: “Tonight was your little brother’s turn to choose the meal. We’re having gum.” *(Glasbergen, in Funny Times)***

**Air Fare: The transcontinental flight I was traveling on was loaded to capacity. A harried steward was trying to get hot meals from the cart onto the passengers’ tables. Balancing food trays that offered three choices, he leaned over to me and asked, “Leather, feathers or fins?” I took the fish. *(Elizabeth P. Lent, in Reader’s Digest)***

**The sergeant, explaining the routine to the new recruits, said, "There will always be a choice in your meals: You can take them . . . or leave them." *(The Rotarian)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****

**Life does not give itself to one who tries to keep all its advantages at once. I have often thought morality may perhaps consist solely in the courage of making a choice. *(Leon Blum, French statesman)***

**A person always has two reasons for doing anything -- a good reason and the real reason. *(J. Pierpont Morgan)***

**Every time you smile, you use thirteen muscles. When you frown you use fifty muscles. *(Bernie Smith, in The Joy of Trivia, p. 11)***

**There comes the time when a nation, as well as its people, must choose between tightening the belt or losing the pants. *(Howard Tamplin)***

**Human beings can get used to virtually anything, given plenty of time and no choice in the matter whatsoever. *(Tom Holt, British novelist)***

**If you choose not to decide, you still have made a choice. *(From the song “Free Will”)***

**Unless you choose to do great things with it, it makes no difference how much you are rewarded, or how much power you have*. (Oprah Winfrey)***

**People make such a big deal of things. For instance, yesterday my doctor gave me a choice. He said it was cigarettes or cancer, one or the other. I didn't hesitate. I didn't cry about it. I gave up cancer. What's the big deal? *(Robert Orben, in The Joke Teller's Handbook)***

**How you lose or keep your hair depends on how wisely you choose your parents. *(Edward R. Nida)***

**When I was a boy, my father, a baker, introduced me to the wonders of song. He urged me to work very hard to develop my voice. Arrigo Pola, a professional tenor in my hometown of Modena, Italy, took me as a pupil. I also enrolled in a teachers college. On graduating, I asked my father, “Shall I be a teacher or a singer?” “Luciano,” my father replied, “if you try to sit on two Choose one chair.” *(Luciano Pavarotti, tenor superstar, in Guideposts)***

**It’s not the situation that’s causing your stress, it’s your thoughts, and you can change that right here and now. You can choose to be peaceful right here and now. Peace is a choice, and it has nothing to do with what other people do or think. *(Dr. Gerald G. Jampolsky, in PACE magazine)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****

**When the winds of change blow, some people build walls, and others build windmills. *(Chinese proverb)***

**Some people go through life getting results; others get consequences. *(E. Stanley Jones)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****

**Consult not your fears but your hopes and your dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do. *(Pope John XXIII)***

**The posters on an office wall were designed to inspire employees to greater efforts. One of them read, “You can -- if you will!” Beneath it, someone had scrawled, “And you're canned if you won't!” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**When I started my current job, I was assigned to a cubicle with a five-foot-high partition. Promoted in three months, I asked for a private office in line with my new title. My boss reluctantly told me that there were three possibilities. The first was a room that housed file cabinets and printers. Another was an office that was empty except when one of the company’s founders visited. The third was a conference room. After we had discussed each of the alternatives, he told me to make a choice. Deciding to play it safe, I replied, “I want the one that will cause the least amount of trouble and affect the fewest people.” A smile shot across his face, and he leaned forward in his chair. “That’s the office you have now,” he said. *(Stan Tillman, in Reader’s Digest)***

**The problem with putting two and two together is that sometimes you get four, and sometimes you get 22. *(Dashiell Hammett)***

**Hello, welcome to the Psychiatric Hotline:**

**If you are obsessive-compulsive, please press 1 repeatedly.**

**If you are co-dependent, please ask someone to press 2.**

**If you have multiple personalities, please press 3, 4, 5, and 6.**

**If you are paranoid-delusional, we know who you are and what you want. Just stay on the line until we can trace the call.**

**If you are schizophrenic, listen carefully and a little voice will tell you which number to press.**

**If you are manic-depressive, it doesn’t matter which number you press. No one will answer. *(Jacquelyn Mayerhofer, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Laughter and tears are both responses to frustration and exhaustion. I myself prefer to laugh, since there is less cleaning up to do afterward. *(Kurt Vonnegut, in Palm Sunday)***

**Owen Wister, an old college friend of Theodore Roosevelt, was visiting him at the White House. Roosevelt's daughter Alice kept running in and out of the room until Wister finally asked if there wasn't something Roosevelt could do to control her. “Well,” said the President, “I can do one of two things. I can be President of the United States or I can control Alice. I cannot possibly do both.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Our friend H. Stephen Glenn is one of the most affirming, empowering individuals we have ever met. He instantly inspires us to always look for the positive. Stephen was at his grandson's tee-ball game a while back. A little boy came up to bat. He swatted the ball off the tee and ran as fast as he could to third base. The coach went up to the little boy and said “Boy, you sure hit that ball a long way.” The little boy said, “I did?” “Yeah, and you ran really fast to third base and surprised the heck out of everybody!” “I did?” he asked.  “Yes, you did. I have one question to ask you before you come to the dugout to watch the rest of the inning,” the coach said to the boy. “When you made the decision to run to third base instead of first, what were you thinking of?” The boy replied, “Well, everybody that was running to first was getting put out.” The coach took the boy to the dugout to talk to him. “Last time you made the choice of running to third base instead of first, you surprised everybody, and made it, but you *didn’t* get a chance to score. Now you've got the same choice again. You can choose to run to third and probably make it okay but you won't get to score, or you can take the risk of running to first base. You may get put out, but if you make it you get a chance to score. But, whatever you decide, I want you to know we're right there behind you.” *(Jack Canfield & Mark Victor Hansen)***

**Bruce Barton some years ago wrote an effective parable concerning the idea of giving: "There are two seas in Palestine. One is fresh and fish are in it. Splashes of green adorn its banks. Trees spread their branches over it, and stretch out their thirsty roots to sip of its healing waters. Along its shores the children play, as children played when He was there. He loved it. He could look across its silver surface when He spoke His parables. And on a rolling plain not far away He fed five thousand people. The river Jordan makes this sea with sparkling water from the hills. Men build their houses near to it, and birds their nests; and every kind of life is happier because it is there. The river Jordan flows on south into another sea. Here is no splash of fish, no fluttering leaf, no song of birds, no children's laughter. Travelers choose another route, unless on urgent business. The air hangs heavy above its water, and neither man nor beast nor fowl will drink. What makes this mighty difference in these neighbor seas? Not the river Jordan. It empties the same good water into both. No the soil is which they lie, nor the country round about. This is the difference. The Sea of Galilee receives but does not keep the Jordan. For every drop that flows into it another drop flows out. The other sea is shrewder, hoarding its income jealously. It will not be tempted into any generous impulse. Every drop it gets, it keeps. "The Sea of Galilee gives and lives." The other sea giving nothing. It is named "Dead." *(A Synoptic Study of the Teachings of Unity)***

**Maitre d’ to restaurant patron: “Smoking, nonsmoking or nicotine patch?” (*Schwadron, in The Wall Street Journal)***

**You always do what you want to do. This is true with every act. You may say that you had to do something, or that you were forced to, but actually, whatever you do, you do by choice. Only you have the power to choose for yourself. *(W. Clement Stone)***

**We have a choice every day of what we can put into the world. Please choose love every single day. *(Harry Styles, singer)***

**The boy wearing a “Bush-Cheney” tee-shirt says to his parents: “Mom, Dad, look -- all my life, I've just assumed I was a Democrat. But I know I think that way because you do. It's not really my choice. I'm just blindly repeating what you say. And since you're wrong about everything else. . .” *(Ed Stein, in Denver Square comic strip)***

**There comes a time when you have to choose between turning the page and closing the book. *(Josh Jameson)***

**I kissed my first woman and smoked my first cigarette on the same day. And since then, I've never had time for tobacco. *(Arturo Toscanini)***

**Totalitarian regimes aim to stamp out the possibility of choice, but what aspiring autocrats do is promise to relieve one of the need to choose. *(Masha Gessen, journalist)***

**Choice usually isn’t choice, only what you’re left with. *(Richard Ford, novelist,***

***in The Washington Post)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****

**We all live life full time, but we use part of our time for the things we choose. *(Denis Waitley)***

**There are two primary choices in life: to accept conditions as they exist, or accept the responsibility for changing them. *(Denis Waitley)***

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****

**Due to the loss of an eye in the Second World War, the Israeli statesman Moshe Dayan had to wear an eyepatch. One day, after being stopped for speeding, he argued with the policeman, “I have only one eye. What do you want me to watch -- the speedometer or the road?” *(Topol's Treasure of Jewish Humor, Wit and Wisdom)***

**Water in an ocean wave moves in only two directions: up and down. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Sometimes we are asked in our hearts to do something and we have trouble understanding why. We have a choice. We can either skip that direction, or we can trust that the voice of our heart is a master designer of our life. *(Joyce & Barry Vissell, in Risk To Be Healed)***

**Why is it so hard to make good choices, and so easy to make bad ones? *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**A man cannot be too careful in the choice of his enemies. *(Oscar Wilde)***

**A pessimist isone who, when he has a choice of two evils, chooses both. *(Oscar Wilde)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**I prefer winter and fall, when you feel the bone structure in the landscape -- the loneliness of it -- the dead feeling of winter. Something waits beneath it -- the whole story doesn't show. *(Andrew Wyeth, in Catholic Digest)***

**Early in life, I had to choose between honest arrogance and hypocritical humility. I chose honest arrogance and have seen no occasion to change. *(Frank Lloyd Wright, architect)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***