



Choices

Lord, we always have choices. That is one of Your gifts that makes us human.

Choices can be exciting and open up many new possibilities. There is always the opportunity to use the gifts and talents You have blessed us

with to further Your kingdom, to help others, to make our lives better.

Choices bring responsibilities and sometimes consequences we do not foresee.

Sometimes the choices we make now will limit the options we have or others have later, whether we see the connection to our past choice or not.

Sometimes the results of our choices can bring great harm. . . . to our sorrow; to our shame.

Sometimes the damage cannot be undone. . . .

Forgive us when we do not consider your will and the impact our choices will have on others.

Remind us that choices made in anger or with punishment or revenge in mind may do more harm than good, especially in the long run, to others and to us.

Forgive us when we put our will, or our welfare, or what we want first.

Forgive us when a choice is needed and we do not choose; or let others make the choices for us so we can say the outcome is not of our making.

Remind us to honor You when we choose by putting You first in our decision making this year. Amen

This week, in your prayer time remember:

- **Refugees** – 57% of refugees come from Syria, Afghanistan, or South Sudan. 37,000 people are forced to flee their homes every day due to do conflict or persecution. 41.3 million people are internally displaced, 25.9 million are refugees, and 3.5 million people are seeking asylum.
- **Nigeria** where people continue living with the threat of violence.
- **Emigrants** attempting to seek asylum in the U.S. Reports continue to confirm that the treatment of emigrants at the U.S. border is inhumane, cruel and degrading. Pediatricians have expressed renewed concern that the effects of such treatment on the children may have life-long detrimental effects on them.
- The people of the **Ukraine** and other places living with invasion and war
- **Shooting victims**
- **Those who are homeless**



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