

Decision making in 6 steps: The Renewed Mind Principle

Step 1: Romans 12:1 - 2

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship.

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. **Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is**--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Rewrite Romans 12:1-2 in your own words:

What does Paul suggest we should do and not do prior to knowing and approving what God's will is?

To do...	Not to do...
1)	1)
2)	

Renewing your mind is a key phrase in the process of our transformation. How does one renew their mind?

The first step is to be a living sacrifice, wanting to serve God's interests first, not conformed to the world around, but renewing the mind.

Step 2: One Question for a renewed mind to answer

"As I consider how God has made me, how can I make the most impact for the Kingdom of God?"

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Step 3: Consider how God has made you across the following areas of your life -

Spiritual Gifts: Ministry abilities of particular fruitfulness or effectiveness identified by others.

Heart's desire: Just what you enjoy! Passions that you have and values you consider very important.

Abilities - Training/talents: The things you have been trained and have become skilled in

Personality preferences: Your tendencies towards relating with others, working and coping.

Experiences: Past experiences that have shaped you generally or convictions that hold you.

Opportunities/Needs: Peculiarities of a place and time that may also play a role in the decision.

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2 Questions to help you get started:

1) What gifts and abilities do you have that may relate to your decision?

2) What are some of your most core values, and which activities give you the greatest sense of satisfaction? How this might fit into your decision?

Step 4: The options and their pros and cons for the Kingdom in light of you

Take a sheet of paper and make a table, which lists the ways **you** can serve and make an impact for Jesus. List the pros and cons *relating to God's Kingdom* of each opportunity.

Option A		Option B		Option C		Option D	
Pros	Cons	Pros	Cons	Pros	Cons	Pros	Cons

Step 5: Respond in faith

Step 6: Continual communication with God through prayer, the Bible, "the church" (i.e., the body of Christ around you), and circumstances

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Application

In a personal time with God review the 6 points of the renewed mind principle. Some questions and points to consider are:

- Have I decided that I want to live for Christ's interests first?
- What is holding me back from presenting myself to God?
- What steps do I need to take to "renew" my mind?
- Review how God has made and developed me using the top of the table.
- Choose one step of faith in a direction that will allow you to continue to communicate with God that option.

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