LINKS DAILY DEVOTIONAL BIBLE STUDY | NOVEMBER 20TH, 2026

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QUESTIONS ENCORE
WHERE DO I START?

Whoever is not with me is against me…. (Matthew 12:30, ESV)

Indecision is a killer, especially in our game. What the English call "being of two minds" captures this psychological state perfectly. Swinging confidently in whatever circumstances demands decisiveness.

From the opening tee shot, we are constantly choosing. Which club? What's my aim point? Should I challenge the bunker or play safely away from it? Should I attack a tucked pin or aim for the center of the green?

Imagine standing on the eighteenth tee in The Shootout. Water guards the left side of the fairway. Trees line the right.

A well-struck driver leaves a short approach, but a poorly struck shot could cost you the tournament. A three-wood feels right but would leave you where you are weakest: mid-irons!

You weigh the options. You quickly consult your mental archives. You toss up some grass. You revisit the yardage book. Eventually, though, you must choose. You cannot stand over it forever. Sooner or later, you've "got-to-pull-the-trigger."

Somewhere, someone once said, "Not choosing is itself a choice." Over these past Fridays, we have lingered over some of life's most consequential questions: Does God exist? Can we reconcile Christianity and Science? What about suffering and evil? Can we trust the Bible? Why does Christianity insist that Jesus is the only way to God? Isn't being a good person enough?

These are weighty questions. We have discovered that the Christian faith does not demand that we abandon our minds or pretend that weighty questions have easy answers.

But at some point, exploring Christianity becomes more than evaluating arguments. Eventually, we must decide.

When Jesus makes this provocative statement, "Whoever is not with me is against me," he is challenging us to see through the myth of neutrality.

After all, when it comes to Jesus, we can only suspend judgment for so long. There is no third way. Why?

Because Jesus is not merely another religious teacher, philosophy professor, or self-help guru offering life advice. His claims are far too weighty to be dismissed as just another scholar groping around for the meaning of life.

If he is who the Scriptures declare him to be—the eternal Son of God, crucified for sinners and raised from the dead—then neutrality is not an offer on the table.

At some point, the question is not, "What do I think about Christianity?" It becomes, "What will I do about Jesus Christ?"

The apostle John tells us why he wrote his Gospel: "These [stories] are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." John presents evidence not merely to inform us about Jesus but to lead us to trust our lives to him.

If you are still unpersuaded. If you still have unanswered questions. Continue asking them. Read the Gospels. Examine the evidence. Search your soul for hidden motives that hinder you from trusting Jesus with your life.

Talk with others whose lives evince humility, honesty, and love. But recognize the difference between seeking answers and indefinitely postponing a decision.

Know this: becoming a Christian does not mean achieving moral perfection, resolving every intellectual difficulty, or making yourself acceptable to God. Christianity announces something far more wonderful.

Jesus Christ has done for us what we could never do for ourselves. Through his perfect obedience, sacrificial death, and triumphant resurrection, he offers forgiveness and a relationship with God; not to mention living forever in inexpressible and ever-increasing happiness. Every shot—some easy, some difficult—requires a choice, but choose we must.

Taking the time to examine the claims of Jesus Christ and investigating the trustworthiness of his promises is critically important. At the end of the day, we are "either for him or against him."

Choose wisely!

READING: Matthew 12:30, ESV

1. Think of a time when you hesitated over an important shot. Did delaying your decision help, or did it make matters worse?

2. Why do you think Jesus refuses to offer a position of permanent neutrality in Matthew 12:30? What makes His claims different from those of other influential religious or moral teachers?

3. What questions, doubts, fears, or attachments might keep someone from trusting Christ? What would taking one honest step toward Him look like this week?

NOTES

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