# **Notes**

Questions? E-mail [mdkalenak@gmail.com](mailto:mdkalenak@gmail.com) or [rob.satrom@gmail.com](mailto:rob.satrom@gmail.com) ***Core Seminars—Guidance***

**Class 7: Q&A**

**What Makes for a Good Question?**

1. It’s a real question (“devil’s advocate” questions aren’t useful).
2. It’s a question you think other people might also have.
3. It’s a question that will be edifying for the class.

**Class Summary**

*Class #1: Is Your Decision-Making Anxious or Restful?*

* God normally guides us through the wisdom he gives us.
* A model decision-making process: Consecration, Information, Supplication, Consultation, Meditation, Decision, Expectation

*Class #2: God’s Providence*

* God is sovereign over absolutely everything—including our decisions.
* God’s goal in everything is to show of the excellence of his glory.
* We are responsible to be faithful in our decisions.

*Class #3: God’s Will*

* God’s will of decree versus God’s will of command.
* The Bible does not tell us to find God’s will for most of life’s choices, life is not like a “choose your own adventure” book.
* God’s will: that we obey, that we be sanctified, that Christ be exalted.

*Class #4: Faithfulness*

* Your goal as a Christian is not achievement, but faithfulness.
* God values your work mainly because it shows off his work.
* Faithfulness-oriented decision-making brings freedom from perfectionism, from unnecessary regret, from pride, and from laziness.

*Class #5: Tools of the Trade 1 (Scripture, Prayer, Counsel)*

* God’s Word
  + Not: random verses, out of context.
  + But: clarifying obedience, shaping our judgment over time.
* Prayer
  + Not: asking for signs God hasn’t promised.
  + But: pray through Scripture, pray for wisdom.
* Counsel
  + Not: selective counsel, putting too much faith in the counsel of a wise person who doesn’t know you.
  + But: talk to those who know you, know your situation, are godly, and know the Scriptures. OK if that’s not all in one person.

*Class #6: Tools of the Trade 2 (Circumstances, Feelings)*

* Circumstances
  + Not: assigning mystical significance to changes in circumstances.
  + But: humbly accepting your situation as God’s good plan for you.
* Feelings, Leadings, Hunches, etc.
  + Not: assuming that a strong feeling is God’s leading; acting only where you feel peace.
  + But: recognizing that God can guide through our desires and feelings—with appropriate skepticism of ourselves.
* Wisdom
  + Begins with the fear of the Lord
  + Comes as we pursue the means of grace
  + Follows obedience

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