Throughout our life, we have to make many decisions. Our past decisions have made us what we are today. As Christians we have choices, when it comes to making decisions. We can make decisions based on our own knowledge, understanding, and other people's advice, OR we can ask God and seek His counsel. *"Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know."* Jeremiah 33:3

We come across <u>many Christians</u>, who are <u>full of regrets</u> about their past decisions. If possible they would love to go back and undo their decisions, and not make the same mistake again. But life does not give us a second chance in many cases. We have to live the rest of our life with regrets. *"For whatever a man sows, that he will also reap."* Galatians 6:7

The only way we can reduce our regret ratio, and be content with every decision is by asking God for His guidance and His counsel. Then we will not have failures or disappointments in our lives. *"Listen to counsel and receive instruction, that you may be wise in your latter days."* Proverbs 19:18

Let us see some of the important decisions we must make and reduce our future regrets.

NAME IN BOOK OF LIFE: The biggest regret each person will have, when his or her name will not be found in Book of Life during judgment. "And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. …And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire. Revelation 20:12-15. The only way we can have our name written in the book of life, if we believe in Jesus and take the steps to be Born Again, according the Bible. Is your name written in the book of life? We must have 100% surety before we leave this earth.

KINGDOM OF GOD: We all have different imagination about what Kingdom of God (Heaven) looks like. And we all want to go there one day. But if we do not do according to what Jesus is saying in this verse, we will never be able to SEE or ENTER in to the Kingdom of God. *"Jesus said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God "; I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. Do not marvel that I said to you, <u>'You</u>*

must be born again." John 3:3:7. Do you want to see and enter in to the Kingdom of God? Are you Born Again?

"Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent" Acts 17:30.

MARRIAGE: This is one of the most important decisions we make in our life. If we make a wrong decision in choosing a marriage partner, we will be miserable for the rest of our life, regardless of how educated or rich we may be. In our society, we find many failed, unhappy and unsatisfied marriages. Even many Christian parents have regret for choosing the wrong partner for their child. They blame others for their own mistake. This will not happen if we seek God's council. *"The Lord, before whom I walk, will send His angel with you and prosper your way; and you shall take a wife for my son."* Genesis 24:40

FAMILY: During funeral time, we find relatives come together and weep and remember the good times they had with the person who is now dead, and speak kind words during eulogy. But in reality we find many family members avoid each other as much as possible. Sometimes we find <u>blood relatives</u>, who lived and played together, are now not speaking for years. One day you will regret, when they are gone from the earth. Even if you want to forgive them, and want to spend time with them, you will not be able to. You will spend rest of your life in regret. So please reduce your regret ratio by giving up your pride, anger and <u>Reconcile.</u> *"This <u>commandment</u> we have from Him: that he who loves God <u>must</u> <i>love his brother also."* 1 John 4:20

YOUNG CHILDREN: Young children make crucial mistake in some of the important decision of their life.

1 – Should I listen to my parents or listen to friends?

2 – Should I stay in school or skip school and go out with friends without my parent's permission.

3 - Should I finish my study or Drop out of school/college?

4 - Should I get married with or without permission and blessing of my parents?

Children <u>must</u> do what parents say to reduce their regrets. Being obedient to parents, Child honors his/her parents. And according to Bible, Those who obey and honor their parents are blessed by God. *Children*, <u>obey your parents</u> in the Lord, <u>for this is right</u>. "<u>Honor your father and mother," which is</u>

the <u>first commandment with promise</u>: "that <u>it may be well with you</u> and you may live long on the earth." Ephesians 6:2,3

HOW TO SEEK GOD'S COUNCIL: Some Christians may argue that, we do pray before making our decisions. But according to the Bible this is not enough. When we pray to seek God's help in making decision, we also must **wait** for His answer. **"He shall call upon Me, and <u>I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him."** Psalm 91:15. <u>Do you know how God answers?</u></u>

GUARANTEED SUCCESS: If we seek God's council in all our upcoming big and small decisions. Our regret ratio will go down. We will never be sorry for our decisions, **Guaranteed**. Because **"Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," Whenever you turn to the right hand or whenever you turn to the left."** Isaiah 30:21. We will enjoy life promised by Jesus in John 10:10

IN CONCLUSION: Beloved, from now on, if you do not wish to live life of failure and disappointments, God is giving us a second chance, God is teaching us from the Bible, how to bring back, Joy, Peace and Success in our lives, and reduce our regret ratio. "<u>Repent</u> therefore, and <u>be converted</u>, that your sins may be blotted out, when the <u>times of refreshing shall come</u> from the presence of the Lord." Acts 3:19