



Decisions – (Konect Series)

Welcome (10 mins)

Consequences:

Give each person a bit of paper and a pen. Tell them they are going to be agony uncles and aunts' and give advice to people. Firstly they have to think up a problem and write it @ the top of the page e.g. 'I have a wart on the end of my nose...'; 'I fancy my brothers best mate' (?!) They should then fold the piece of paper over and pass it on. They then write some advice without looking @ the problem, fold that over and pass it on. Finally they add the name of someone who should be able to help and why. Read out the results.

Worship (20 mins)

With some music on in the background – write down some bad decisions you have made, things you are sorry for. Don't get people to be under condemnation but just ask God if there are things to say sorry for. Place each of these bits of paper into envelopes and write 'to Jesus' on them. Then read 1 John 1.9, throw away / rip up the envelopes and then drink some clear water afterwards – a picture of being cleansed on the inside.

Witness (20 mins)

(Witness is deliberately before the Word)

Now write down the names of friends you are praying for and write a prayer. Put the prayer in another envelope. Gather all the envelopes together (perhaps do 2 or 3 each). Pray that the decisions your friends make will be ones that bring them closer to Jesus. Read 2 Corinthians 4:4 – about the blindfold needing to be taken off. You could perhaps pray in the dark and then turn the lights on?!

Word (40 mins)

Some decisions are obviously more important than others. As a group decide on a rating for each of the decisions below from one to ten, where one is 'hardly matters in the big scheme of things' and ten is 'of earth shattering importance'. Make one side of the room 'one' and the other side 'ten' and ask people to stand at either end or in the middle depending on how important they think the decision is. Get them to think what impact this decision could have on their lives in 10 years time. Be prepared for disagreements!

- What to wear when you go out
- What football team to support
- How much time to spend on homework



- Whether to go ice-skating or to the cinema
- Whether to start smoking
- Whether to have sex before marriage
- Whether to gossip about someone
- Whether you should walk to school or get the bus

Etc.

The ratings that are given by your group will show some of the values they hold and how consistent they are with the gospel.

Ask for suggestions as to the ways we can make decisions, and have these props handy if possible. Visual things make more of an impact. e.g.

- Old-fashioned scales > weighing up the advantages and disadvantages
- Barometer > measures temperature, e.g. how am I feeling today?
- Map > having an overview of life, how will this decision help me get closer to my destination
- Highway Code > a set of rules, is a decision right or wrong?
- Pictures of people > what do others think of this decision
- Bible > what does God want me to do?

In important decisions, a lot of these things come into play, which are the most important?

Ask each person to think of a decision they know they find hard to stick by, then share it. Encourage people that talking to others we can trust is really helpful ('accountability') because it takes off some of the pressure and helps us makes the right decision.

Write down some decisions you are facing
now / will face soon / will face in 2-3 years / decisions you will have to make in 10 years
Pray for each other that God will lead you to make the right decisions.
Read a Psalm (like Psalm 23 or 32) which has about God leading us!

Notes

Aim: to explore the consequences of actions; to help provide a balance between 'taking risks' and 'keeping safe'.

Cell Plan