



# AT THE MOVIES

## Draft Day

#NPMovies

Week 1

1 of 4

July 3, 2016

**Bottom Line:** We get where we are in life by choosing to make God-centered decisions.

**Icebreaker:** What is the most important decision you have ever made?

**Key Verse:** *No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money. Matthew 6:24*

Matthew 6:19-24 is all about storing up treasures in heaven as opposed to here on earth, where moths can eat them away and the elements can cause them to corrupt and rust (6:20). The choices we make matter. Every time we make a decision, we are either choosing earthly treasures or heavenly ones. Here, Jesus is specifically applying this paradigm to money, but it extends well beyond it. Just imagine all the choices you make in a given day.

You have the choice to work hard or slack off. You have the choice to obey the speed limit or go a little bit faster. You choose what to eat and with whom to spend your time. Many of these choices seem to be of little value or importance, but the point is we have the freedom to choose. We can squander this freedom just as easily as any other. Being a fallen man or woman means we have the capacity to make bad decisions. Unfortunately, it means that making bad ones come more naturally to us than good ones.

Think about a young child: You don't have to teach him or her to make bad choices; children do plenty of that on their own. Most of your job as a parent comes in teaching your children to make good decisions. When God called us to be His own through the gospel, we were given the Spirit to help us succeed in making choices that please God. When the Spirit lives in us, He teaches God's will to us and shows us how to live a life that is fully pleasing to Him. It is only through the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit that we are able to understand all that God has for us.

## THINK IT OVER >>>

Thinking back on John's message, what stood out to you?

John asked three questions: Who are you listening to? What's on your draft board? and What's in your pocket?

What are some examples of earthly treasures and heavenly treasures?

If it is obvious that heavenly treasures are better, so why do we devote so much time and energy choosing things that will not last?

What are some examples of small but significant choices we are faced with often? What hope do we have if we make the wrong choice?

## LOOK IT OVER <<<

What choices do you have to make over the next week? Are any of them major? How can we pray for them as a group?

What is the the Spirit of God leading you to choose right now?

What are some things we can do on a regular basis to help us continue to make decisions that honor Jesus?

When have you made a hard decision that you know was right? How did God come to you and support you in that moment?

What role does godly counsel play in making decisions?

# NEXT STEPS

This week, consider taking some next steps together, as a group:

1. Share with each other what kind of process you go through when you are seeking to make decisions. Sometimes the collective wisdom of a group of believers can help sharpen and refine God's work in our lives.
2. Pray that God would give us a measure of His Spirit to choose to honor Him as our master instead of anyone or anything else. Ask that God would give you assurance and confidence as you continue to live for Him.

## EVALUATION/ACTION Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ

**Bottom Line:** We get where we are in life by choosing to make God-centered decisions.

Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always)	1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?										
Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person?										
What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating?										
At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week?										

## PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

## DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** this week at [newpointe.org/daily](http://newpointe.org/daily):

Day 1: Matthew 7:13-14

Day 2: 1 Corinthians 10:13

Day 3: Luke 14:26

Day 4: Luke 14:27

Day 5: Romans 8:12-13

***Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over with others throughout the week.***  
*(Don't forget to bring this paper to your next small group meeting)*