

Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins. James 4:17 (NIV)

Make A Commitment

I've noticed something about you. What's that? You have these crazy arguments or debates with yourself. Sometimes you even include me in on them. Arguments and debates, what kind of arguments and debates? I'm not sure what you mean? **You know those conversations you have with yourself about something you don't want to do?** Like what? Can you give me some examples? **Is nothing coming to your mind?** I wouldn't say that. I would just like you to give me some examples that come to your mind. **Are you sure?** Not really, but I won't say no now. Please go ahead, I'm listening.

Let's say it's Sunday morning. You were up late Saturday night. You're very tired. In your mind, you deserve rest because you've had a very hard week. Under no circumstances do you want to get out of bed. Is this sounding a little familiar to you? Yes, it is. **So, a conversation begins in your mind about the idea of getting out of bed and going to church. You're trying to sell yourself on the merits of staying in bed. After much conversation, you convince yourself that it is my will for you to stay in bed. Has this ever happened to you?** You know that it has. **There is a problem with your conclusion. What's that? It is not my will that you stay in bed instead of assembling together with other believers to worship me. Does it shock you to hear me say this to you?** No, not at all. **So, you know that it is my will for you to come together with other believers to worship me?** Yes, I do. **How is it possible for you to have a conversation with yourself that leads you to thinking and doing otherwise?** I'm not sure. I must have thought that these were special circumstances that overruled your desire to have me in worship on that Sunday morning. **How does that sound to you as you say that to me now?** It sounds incredibly weak and pathetic. I'm glad that you are willing to admit that.

This is part of a much larger problem. It is? Yes, it is. I'm not going to overwhelm you with examples but you have these conversations with yourself quite frequently. Do you know where the conclusions to these conversations usually end up? I think so, but please tell me. **These conversations most often end up with you concluding your decision based on what is most comfortable to you.** I was afraid you might say that. **It's true, isn't it?** Yes, it is. **Let me ask you a question. Go ahead. How willing are you to be uncomfortable as you serve me?** That's a hard question. I can only answer it by saying that I'm sorry. Forgive me for placing my own comfort above doing what I know you want me to do for you. **You are forgiven.**

I don't want to leave our conversation at this point. I want you to know how pleased I am with your love and service to me. You are? Yes, I am. I know that you want to be used by me. You want to bear abundant fruit for my kingdom and bring glory to my name. Yes, I do, above all else. I have heard that prayer of your heart and I will answer it. You will? Yes, beyond what you could ask for or even imagine. But there is one thing I want you to do. What's that? Stop having these conversations with yourself when you already know what I'm asking you to do for me. Make a commitment now, to just do what I have asked of you. Yes, Lord, I will.

Lord, you will get no argument out of me. I want to know and do your will. I want to do all the good you want me to do for you. I know that this will cost my time, talents and resources. Use all I am, all I have and I hope to be for your kingdom and glory. Amen

Guidance *The Good You Ought To Do*

Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.

NIV James 4:17

Guidance *The Right Thing To Do*

So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.

ESV James 4:17

Guidance *What You Ought To Do*

Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.

NLT James 4:17

Guidance *Knows To Do Good*

Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.

NKJV James 4:17

Guidance *The Right Thing To Do*

Anyone, then, who knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, commits sin.

NRSV James 4:17

Guidance *The Right Thing To Do*

In fact, if you know the right thing to do and don't do it, that, for you, is evil.

MSG James 4:17

Guidance *What Is Right To Do*

So any person who knows what is right to do but does not do it, to him it is sin.

AMP James 4:17

Guidance *What Is Right To Do*

Remember, too, that knowing what is right to do and then not doing it is sin.

TLB James 4:17

Guidance *The Right Thing To Do*

Therefore, to one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

NASB James 4:17

Guidance *The Right Thing To Do*

Anyone who knows the right thing to do, but does not do it, is sinning.

NCV James 4:17

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you make a commitment to go and do what God asks of you without debate or argument.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will go and do what you ask of me without debate or argument.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, what are you asking me to go and do for you today?
