

Take something as simple as going fishing. You cannot even think about it without having to make some decisions. What day will you go? Where will you go – the pond, lake or the small stream you do not tell anyone about? Will you take your boat, hip boots or lawn chair? What will you try to catch – bass, trout, pan fish, muskie or catfish? What pole will you take – fly rod, heavy or ultra light? Will you use your level wind reel, your spinning outfit or your old closed-face? What bait will you use – artificial, live or cut?

Will you sneak off by yourself for some peace and quiet? Or, will you make it a family trip? Are you going to take your pole even though you know you will be putting worms on hooks for your children the entire time? Sure, some of the decisions are trivial, but others are crucial because the success of your trip is determined by the decisions you made before you even made your first cast.

Even when you arrive at your spot and start casting away, you are still faced with decision after decision. Will you change your bait from live to artificial after five unsuccessful casts? If

you switch to artificial, are you going with the yellow spinner bait or the Rapala Original Floater?

So, you decide to go with the Rapala. With your first cast, STRIKE! Even now, the thrill of the fight comes with decisions. You have to decide when to give line and when to take it to successfully reel your catch through thick grass, around stumps and over rocks. The fact is that decisions are everything. You are either basking in the glory of the monster you just landed or wallowing in the disappointment of the one that got away.

As in fishing, our entire lives are filled with decisions – some trivial and some crucial. There is no decision more crucial than to accept the free gift of salvation and inherit eternal life in Heaven. God leaves that decision solely up to you. God gives everyone freewill to choose Jesus as their Lord and Savior or to reject Him. God is not a dictator, but a loving, caring God who has prepared us a place in Heaven for those who choose to accept Jesus Christ. It is God's desire that all come to repentance and that no one perish (II Peter 3: 9).

So, the biggest decision of your life, your eternal life, is now. Make today the day you decide that you want a relationship with Jesus Christ. You never know whether the decisions you made on your last fishing trip were the last fishing trip decisions you will ever make. God has not promised us we would be here tomorrow to go fishing again. He also has not promised us tomorrow to make the most important decision you will ever make – the decision to live for Jesus Christ (*Matthew 24: 36-44*).

If you want to make this decision today, please pray the following prayer with a sincere and accepting heart.

"Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner and cannot save myself. I believe that You died on the cross for my sins. I repent of my sins and accept You as my personal Lord and Savior. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for saving me. In Jesus' Holy and Precious name I pray, Amen."



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