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OF THE QUORUM OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES

CHOOSE YOU THIS DAY

Our Heavenly Father's goal in parenting is not to have His children *do* what is right; it is to have His children *choose* to do what is right and ultimately become like Him. . . .

God's plan includes directions for us, referred to in the scriptures as commandments. These commandments are neither a whimsical set nor an arbitrary collection of imposed rules meant only to train us to be obedient. They are linked to our developing the attributes of godliness, returning to our Heavenly Father, and receiving enduring joy. . . .

Indeed, God desires, expects, and directs that each of His children choose for himself or herself. He will not force us. . . .

. . . When we get off the path, God is saddened because He knows that this eventually, but invariably, leads to diminished happiness and forfeited blessings. In the scriptures, getting off the path is referred to as sin, and the resultant

decrease in happiness and forfeited blessings is called punishment. In this sense, God is not punishing us; punishment is a consequence of our own choices, not His. . . .

. . . From God's perspective, through sincere repentance and pressing forward with a steadfastness in Christ, once back on the path, it will be as if we were never off. . . .

. . . The magnitude of our eternal happiness depends on choosing the living God and joining Him in His work. . . .

So, choose faith in Christ; choose repentance; choose to be baptized and receive the Holy Ghost; choose to conscientiously prepare for and worthily partake of the sacrament; choose to make covenants in the temple; and choose to serve the living God and His children. Our choices determine who we are and who we will become.

➔ See the full address at conference.lds.org



WE ARE "GOOD KIDS"

WHO ARE WORTH

BOTHERING ABOUT.

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