

**Developing My Decision-Making**  
*a lack of*  
**Lessons in ^ Self-Control Pt 1**  
**Judges 14:1-9**  
**6/24/07 Bud Wrenn Integrity**

Stages of a decision

Belief - My foundational values & principles.

Thinking - My beliefs and circumstances.

Attitude - My thinking and emotions.

Action - My attitude and will.

**Impulsiveness - A sudden wish or urge that prompt and unpremeditated act or feeling; abrupt inclination.(AHD)**

*Judges 14:1-2 ...Samson ...noticed a certain Philistine woman. ....he told his father and mother, "I want to marry a young Philistine woman I saw in Timnah."*

**Dangers of impulsiveness...**

**1) Neglect of Godly life principles.**

*Judges 14:3 .... "Isn't there one woman in our tribe or among all the Israelites you could marry? Why must you go to the pagan Philistines to find a wife?" But Samson told his father, "Get her for me. She is the one I want."*

**2) A higher risk of injury - physical, emotional, mental and spiritual.**

*Judges 14:5 As Samson and his parents were going down to Timnah, a young lion attacked Samson near the vineyards of Timnah.*

**3) Covering up the effects of the decision.**

*Judges 14:6 At that moment the Spirit of the Lord powerfully took control of him, and he ripped the lion's jaws apart with his bare hands. He did it as easily as if it were a young goat. But he didn't tell his father or mother about it.*

**4) An erosion of personal moral standards**

*Judges 14:7-8 When Samson arrived in Timnah, he talked with the woman and was very pleased with her. [8] Later, when he returned to Timnah for the wedding, he turned off the path to look at the carcass of the lion....*

**5) Continued dishonesty to cover up prior disobedience.**

*Judges 14:9 He scooped some of the honey ... and ate it .... He also gave some to his father and mother.... But he didn't tell them he had taken the honey from the carcass of the lion.*

**The Antidote for Impulsiveness: Discretion - The exercise of good judgment or common sense in practical matters (AHD)**

*Proverbs 2:7-8 He grants a treasure of good sense to the godly. He is their shield, protecting those who walk with integrity. He guards the paths of justice and protects those who are faithful to him.*

**Discretion is .....**

**T** *imely*.

*Proverbs 2:9 Then you will understand what is right, just, and fair, and you will know how to find the right course of action every time.*

**I** *nformed*.

*Proverbs 2:10 For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will fill you with joy.*

**P** *roactive*.

*Proverbs 2:11 Wise planning will watch over you. Understanding will keep you safe.*