

## PASTOR'S PATCH



Image by [Tumisu](#) from [Pixabay](#)

**“You choose”.** The words are said to children from their earliest days – “the blue dress or the pink one?”, “this lolly or that one?”, “do you want to go to the park or stay at home?” As the years go by, then the questions continue but the decisions may get harder and the consequences more important.

And though you may not realise it, today you have made a choice, in fact we all have. Look at this line from Deuteronomy chapter 30 spoken by Moses to God’s people :

*Now choose life, so that you and your children may live*

You can read the whole event from chapter 27 to 30, where God leads the people up Mount Gerizim to make their decision. Basically they could either go God’s way, or go their own sinful way: but though the choice is theirs, their decision will impact the lives of others.

And the choice is ours every day too, to go God’s way or our own way. Many followers of Jesus love using Lectio 365 for their daily devotionals (as do I). But it was only last week that I realised a careful choice of words appears each day in the opening “Rejoice and Reflect” section. It may say things like,

*“I **choose** to rejoice in God’s unfailing love...”*

*“I **choose** to rejoice in God’s help today...”*

*“I **choose** to rejoice in God’s protection today...”*

And other similar phrases which are then followed by words from various Psalms.

I have already grown accustomed to seeking solace and encouragement from the Psalms, but then I realised that every day we have a choice. Either we can dwell on our own problems and challenges, or we can **choose** to reflect upon the faithfulness and goodness of our Father in heaven; not an accident but a deliberate decision.

## CHALLENGE

What will you **choose** today? Your own pressures or God’s promises?

Will you nurse your own worries or turn to God’s Word for wisdom and strength?

***Darrell Holmes***



**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK ACTIVITIES**  
**12<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May**

8.00am–12 noon

Methodist Community Hall

Big Brekkie and Coffee Morning

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May**

5.00pm

Baptist Church

United Christian Aid Week Service

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May**

10.30am–12.30pm

Methodist Church

Sponsored Silence

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

10.00am–2.00pm

Methodist Community Hall

Coffee and Lunch

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**

Judy Lee's home : 3 Cumber Close

01803 858483 or 07929 642976

9.30am

11.00am

Big Brekkie (**booking essential**)

Coffee

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July**

Hunter's Moon, Horsepool Street

Lindsay's Afternoon Tea / Bring and Buy / Raffle