



## ***A Prayer for Wisdom and Peace When Making Big Decisions***

Dear heavenly Creator, you number our hairs and determine our days; you hang the stars and feed the sparrows; you open doors no one can shut and shut doors no one can open. Surely, we can trust you when the time comes for making big decisions, or for that matter, any decisions. We are in just such a season again, Father, and we know we are not alone. We will trust you for generous wisdom, straight paths and peaceful hearts, all for your glory.

How we praise you for being the decision-making-God. It's not our decisions, but yours that make all the difference. We will plan, but we trust you to order our steps. We will pray, but ask you to fix our prayers en route to heaven. We will seek counsel, but count on you to overrule faulty or incomplete input from our most trusted friends and mentors. We will search the Scriptures, but not looking for proof texts but for you, Father. All we want and need is you.

Free us from the paralysis of analysis—wanting to make the right decision, more than we want to be righteous people; wanting to be known as wise people, more than we want to know you. Free us from the idolatry of assuming there's only one “perfect” choice in any given situation. Free us from making decisions primary for our comfort and other's approval, or fear their disapproval. Free us to know that good choices don't always lead to the easiest outcomes, especially at first. Free us from second and twenty-second guessing our decisions.

Father, no matter if it's wisdom about buying or selling, vocation or vacation, this place or that place, this person or that person, we know that in ALL things, your will is our sanctification—our becoming more and more like Jesus. Give us this passion; make it our delight.

So, Father, make us more and more like Jesus, even as we trust you for the opening and closing of doors that are in front of us. All for your glory—in our eating and drinking; and in our whatever's, whenever's and wherever's. Amen.

- *Written by Scotty Smith,*

<https://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/online-resources/prayer-index/discernment>