

Avoid the Downward Spiral

adapted from Chris Fetter's message

If you make the wrong decisions, seek the wrong counsel, and have the wrong attitude, you will be prone to a downward spiral moving away from God.

Avoid the Downward Spiral by Living Like Jesus

1. SERVE OTHERS, **Mat 20:26-28**. This is unlike our culture, but is the model Jesus gave us to follow.
 - Are you willing to serve others regardless of what's in it for you?
 - Do you look around for opportunities to serve others?
2. SEEK GODLY COUNSEL, **Pro 11:14, Pro 20:18**. Jesus prayed to His Father and sought to do His will.
 - Do you pray, asking God what He wants?
 - Do you listen to what He says?
 - Do you do what He says?
3. MODEL HUMILITY, **Php 2:3-4**. Jesus was the ultimate model of humility.
 - Do you consider the needs of others?
 - Do you speak the truth in love, **Eph 4:29**?
 - Do you admit your mistakes and make amends?

Sad Example of What NOT to Do

- King Rehoboam made wrong decisions, **1Kgs 12:1-7**. He failed to lead for God as a servant leader.
- King Rehoboam sought the wrong counsel, **1Kgs 12:8-11**. He listened to those who told him what he wanted to hear, instead of seeking God's will.
- King Rehoboam had the wrong attitude, **1Kgs 12:12-15**. He was not humble.

Avoid being like King Rehoboam. Don't get trapped in a downward spiral.

Self-Assess: Avoid the Downward Spiral

How true are the following statements for you?

	not true <----->totally true
I look for opportunities to serve others.	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
I ask God what He wants, listen to Him, and do what He says.	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
I consider the needs of others, not just my own.	1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5

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