

Ten Choices Tweens Face Every Day

Elizabeth and Jim George Offer Biblical Guidance on How to Make Right Choices

For tweens, life is full of choices. *Should I be friends with the popular girl? Would it really hurt to watch this movie even though mom said no? I told my Sunday School teacher I'd memorize a verse this week, but I'd much rather play video games. And really, why can't I just sleep all day?*

"Tweens have to make a lot of decisions every day but this responsibility is new for many of them and they need guidance," says Elizabeth George, a bestselling author and Bible teacher. "Plus, in many of their actions, tweens are now more like teenagers and they need to know how to make right choices."

To help guide tweens in their decision-making process, Elizabeth has authored *A Girl's Guide to Making Really Good Choices* and her husband, Jim, also a bestselling author and speaker, has written *A Boy's Guide to Making Really Good Choices*.

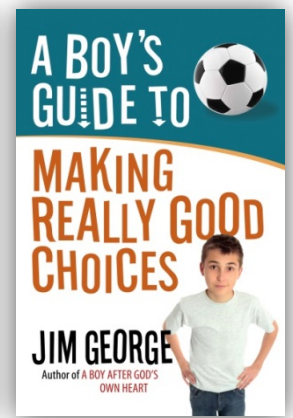
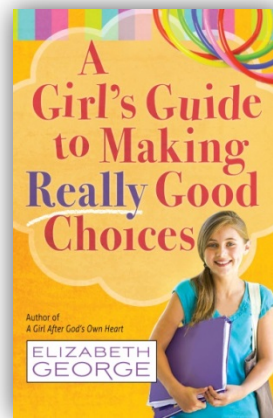
"As parents, we don't want our kids to simply make good choices or even better choices," says Jim. "We want them to make the best choices. This is why it's critical that we show them that the Bible has answers that can help them to make the right choices."

While not interchangeable, both books address nine choices common to tweens of both genders such as choosing to get up, to read the Bible every day, to pray, to select the right kind of friends, to be careful with words, to be patient, to have a happy heart, and to trust God. But, Jim also encourages boys to choose to obey, while Elizabeth challenges girls to choose to be faithful.

"Tweens face many of the same challenges, whether boys or girls," says Jim. "But boys are mischievous and want to push the boundaries a bit more, which is why we felt that boys in particular need to focus on choosing to obey. The Bible, on the other hand, exhorts women to be faithful in all things, which is why we felt this was something important for girls to begin to think through."

Using stories, acrostics, journaling, Scripture, probing questions and fill in the blanks, the George's created the books to be hands-on and to serve as an introduction to studying the Bible. Tweens will also learn practical things such as how to make a prayer list, how to fight against peer pressure, how to be a better sibling, and how to gain more confidence as they face the world around them.

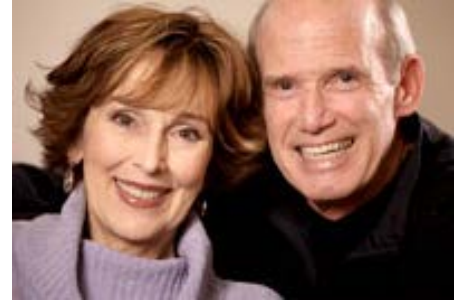
"We always want our kids to make the right choices," says Elizabeth. "They're safer that way, they're wiser, and they live a better life." It's never too early to give young boys a resource that will help them learn the skills for making right choices in life.



Elizabeth and Jim George are bestselling authors and national speakers dedicated to helping people live a life after God's own heart. Together, they have written over 70 books with more than 8 million copies sold. Elizabeth is the author of *A Woman After God's Own Heart*® (more than 1 million copies sold) and *A Young Woman After God's Own Heart*, among many other titles. She's also a popular speaker at Christian women's events. Jim is the bestselling author of *A Man After God's Own Heart* and two-time finalist for the Gold Medallion Book Award. Elizabeth and Jim are parents and grandparents, and have been active in ministry for more than 30 years.

Meet the Authors

Elizabeth and Jim George are bestselling authors and national speakers dedicated to helping people live a life after God's own heart. Together, they have written over 70 books with more than 8 million copies sold. For over 30 years, the teaching and steadfast example of Elizabeth and Jim has helped countless men and women:



- Simplify life by focusing on God's priorities.
- Appreciate God's Word and apply it to everyday situations.
- Respond to circumstances with confidence by seeing yourself through God's loving eyes.
- Increase closeness in marriage by serving and honoring each other.
- Powerfully shape the hearts of children and teenagers.
- Enjoy greater intimacy with God.

Women around the world are drawn to Elizabeth's approach of daily starting with the Bible to handle life's challenges. Her ability to weave biblical truth into everyday issues has led readers to make over 15 of her books bestsellers. Elizabeth's distinctive work, *A Women After God's Own Heart*, has sold over 1 million copies and received the ECPA Platinum Book Award. Likewise, her delightful book, *A Girl After God's Own Heart*, remains a treasured gift for moms and grandmothers and made the CBA Bestseller List for 14 consecutive months.

Elizabeth also encourages women through her radio broadcast, "A Minute for Busy Women," featured on Christian radio stations across the country and at www.oneplace.com. She is also a regular keynote speaker at women's conferences and retreats.

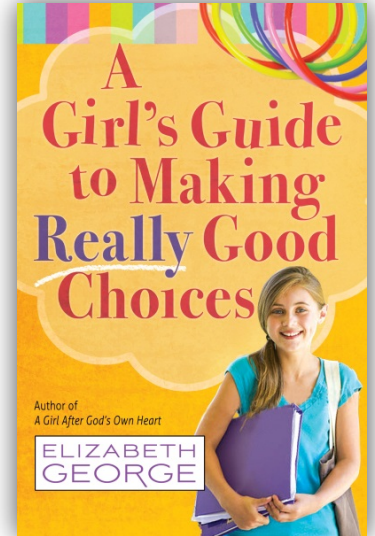
Jim is the bestselling author of *A Man After God's Own Heart* and two-time finalist for the Gold Medallion Book Award. Besides writing, he has served as a pastor, seminary professor, and as a pharmacist with the Medical Service Corps of the Army Reserve. Jim's leadership influence has helped thousands of men honor God by modeling integrity in the workplace, learn to be better communicators, and build a strong legacy for their family. Jim holds a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from the University of Oklahoma, and a Master of Divinity and Master of Theology from Talbot School of Theology.

Elizabeth holds a Bachelor of Science in Education from the University of Oklahoma. In addition she has taught in public and private schools and worked with age groups ranging from preschool to adult.

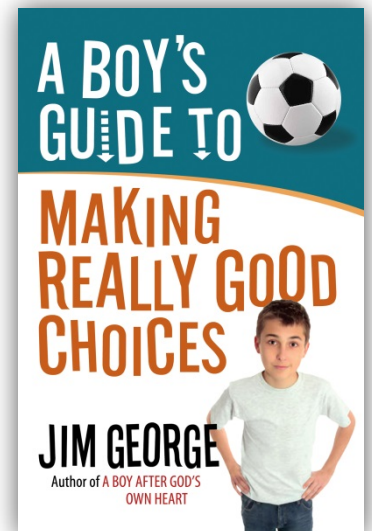
In the midst of their busy writing schedule, Elizabeth and Jim love spending time with their two married daughters and eight grandchildren, taking daily walks along golden sands, and enjoying the beautiful Hawaiian sunsets. They divide time residing in Honolulu, Hawaii and the Washington State coast.

Discussion Questions

- Elizabeth, tweens are fairly new to the decision making process. What kinds of decisions do they face on a daily basis?
- How does a parent, a grandparent, or a youth leader get their tween to see their need for help when making decisions, especially when tweens often think they know everything?
- Jim, you and Elizabeth have several grandchildren. What do you see as the biggest challenge facing your tween grandchildren?
- Making the right choice isn't just about obeying a set of rules. Where do good choices come from?
- Why is it so important for tweens to learn to make good choices now?
- You address several choices that impact both boys and girls in these books—reading their Bible daily, praying, making the right friends, trusting God. Why did you choose the topics you did?
- One of the choices you write about is simply to get up, where you emphasize the importance of getting up early or at least on time, something that most tweens—and adults alike—don't want to do. How does getting up early or on time make an impact on our daily life?
- You both spend time talking about the importance of not just having friends but choosing the right kinds of friends. What does the Bible teach about friendship and how can we help guide our children in this area?
- Jim, one choice that differs in the book for boys is to make the choice to obey. Why did you choose this one?
- And, Elizabeth, you chose to specifically encourage girls to make the choice to be faithful. Why do you feel this is so important for girls in particular?
- Out of the ten choices that each of you explored, which do you think are most critical?



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Interview Topics

Here are some suggested interview topics you might consider for an interview with Elizabeth and Jim:

Helping Your Tween Make Right Choices

Our tweens face a myriad of choices every day—from what to wear, to who to befriend, to how to spend their free time. But, as they face these daily decisions, they need guidance. In this interview, Elizabeth and Jim will discuss how to come alongside your tween in the decision making process, how to help motivate them to study the Bible for answers, and how to help guide them to make the right choices.

Ten Choices for Tweens

Tweens face a lot of choices—some more critical than others. In this interview, the George's will discuss ten of the most important choices that boys and girls face—from choosing to read the Bible to choosing to get up on time, from choosing the right friends to choosing to have a happy heart. They will reveal why these choices are of particular importance and how they all tie to the choice of living for God.

Behind the Scenes of Choices

We've all made good and bad choices in life and like most parents, you desire for your children to make not only good choices, but the right choices. What goes into making a choice? In this interview, Elizabeth and Jim will use the acrostic C-H-O-I-C-E-S to look at what a choice actually is, how choices deal with your heart, and how everyone's choices are different.

Teaching Your Tween to Pray

The Bible is filled with information about prayer, especially about the importance of prayer when faced with the need to make a really good choice. In this interview, the George's will share what the Bible teaches about prayer, examples of people who prayed in the Bible, how to teach your child to make a prayer list, and how to help motivate your tween to develop a thriving prayer life. (And you'll probably learn a few things, too!)

Patience is Spelled P-A-T-I-E-N-C-E

While we encourage our tweens to make the right choices, we know that sometimes they'll make bad choices—with bad results. In this interview, Elizabeth and Jim will encourage parents whose tweens are making poor choices, offer up practical, biblically-based strategies for helping turn things around, and show what the Bible has to say about patience.