

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Guessing God

What's worse than not making a decision? Second-guessing the decisions that you have already made. Not making a decision is really a decision...kind of ironic way of saying that I like things the way they are. In making a decision and then second guessing it, you are essentially saying "I don't really like things they way they are...but I'm too afraid to move forward." To me, that is an even worse torment.

Think about Lot's wife...she had her own battles with second-guessing and looking back. Genesis 19 describes how the angels came to Lot and warned him of the impending destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. They specifically told him not to look back at the punishment that was to come to the wicked city. It's not really clear why Lot's wife looked back. Lot, her husband, was also hesitant having to be urged by the angels to flee and not look back. Hearing all of this, she was probably asking herself "Why do we have to leave now? Surely it can't be that bad." The next thing you know she was a pillar of salt. God was trying to deliver her from a life-threatening situation...but she was still dragging her feet. Genesis 19:26 says, "**But Lot's wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.**"

The New Testament also speaks of the issue of looking back in Luke 17:31-33, “On that day no one who is on the roof of his house, with his goods inside, should go down to get them. Likewise, no one in the field should go back for anything. Remember Lot's wife! Whoever tries to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it.”

Through a recent chain of unfortunate events, I also found myself tempted to look back at my past and wonder what I was leaving behind. Despite the fact that God had made it clear in a number of ways that it was time to move on, I still was fighting the nagging urge to move forward. I knew they weren't the best circumstances, but I still wasn't ready to move on. Just when I started to turn my focus to the past, God blessed me to be able to see more clearly his future direction for my life.

Second-guessing is not yet regret but is rooted in unresolved issues including insecurity and rejection. Perhaps most significantly, second-guessing is mixed with just enough of those painful memories of past failures to keep us from successfully transitioning to new and more wonderful seasons in our lives. Looking at my own life and some recent circumstances, I can understand how Lot's wife was tempted to look back. Her faith could only take her so far....and at that point, she just needed to be obedient and go forward.

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