5 AUTHORITATIVE VOICES OF INFLUENCE

1. CULTURE & SUBCULTURES WHAT DOES THE CURRENT CULTURE SAY?

2. TRADITION & HISTORY WHAT HAVE WE ALWAYS DONE?

3. FAMILY & FRIENDS WHAT DOES MY FAMILY OR FRIENDS SAY?

4. EMOTION (Feelings) & EXPERIENCE HOW DO I FEEL ABOUT IT? WHAT HAVE I

5. LOGIC & REASON WHAT MAKES THE MOST SENSE TO ME?

WORD OF GOD

WHAT DOES GOD'S WORD INSTRUCT?

Mat 7:24-27 NLT

"Anyone who listens to My teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. 25 Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won't collapse because it is built on bedrock. 26 But anyone who hears My teaching and doesn't obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. 27 When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash."

"In applying [the teachings of Jesus] we need to consider that the Bible is a dangerous book to read, and that the church is a dangerous society to join. For in reading the Bible we hear the words of Christ, and in joining the church we say we believe in Christ. As a result, we belong to the company described by Jesus as both hearing his teaching and calling him Lord. Our membership therefore lays upon us the serious responsibility of ensuring that what we know and what we say is translated into what we do. "Christian Counter-Culture, John Stott, (p. 210)

Mat 28:18-20 ESV

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Rom 12:2 ESV

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.