



# The Quality of Your Decision Making will Determine the Direction of Your Church

A 5 part conversation with Duncan Banks & Andy Stanley on why the biggest part of leadership is always making decisions.





*"This is a high stakes venture for the people in your charge. Because the quality of your decisions will determine the direction of your team and ultimately, your church."*

Andy Stanley

You make leadership decisions everyday. From those relatively small choices like, "Do we sing 3 songs or 4 this Sunday?" to those big strategic decisions that seem to shift everyone. "Let's change everything we do as a church & focus on reaching the lost rather than keeping the already reached!"

Whether big or small, your decisions always have an impact. So it stands to reason, if you learn to make better decisions you'll become a better leader.

The problem with so many church leaders is they're not always great making decisions. Mainly because there are so many competing opinions and preferences among their people. And being pastors, they always want to be liked. They don't want to upset anyone.

So inertia and procrastination sets in. They brush the decision under the carpet because they don't want to make a bad decision now and regret it down the road.

So how do leaders get over themselves and make better decisions?

I turned to North Point Community Church's Lead Pastor, Andy Stanley, for some answers. Read highlights from our conversation below or visit XYZ to watch the full webinar.

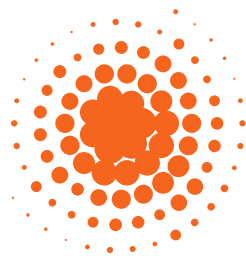
**Duncan:** Andy, you don't need to be a prophet to know that many church leaders right now are facing some big decisions. You've written an intriguing little book on this subject where you talk about the five questions leaders should ask before they make a decision. So can you help us make better leadership decisions and have fewer regrets?

**Andy:** I think there are five extremely important questions for leaders to ask when it comes to decision making. **Because asking a good question will always set you up for making a better decision.** The first question is what I call the integrity question.

**Duncan:** Give us an example of the kind of integrity question leaders could ask before making a big decision?

**Andy:** The integrity question goes like this: **"Am I being honest with myself... really?"** The most difficult person to lead is the person in the mirror. 100% of the time. And if as leaders we're not honest with ourselves then automatically our decisions are going to be just off by a few degrees. Then, as time goes by, it just gets worse and worse and worse.





So, "Am i being honest with myself... really?" is the first question a leader should ask. The next time you are faced with a decision to make ask yourself why am I doing this... really? Why am I saying this... really? Why am I avoiding that meeting... really? Why am I avoiding her... really? Why do I get so angry... really?

**Duncan:** So the first question is about learning to be honest with ourselves?

**Andy:** Correct Duncan. You can't make a great decision if you don't know why you're doing what you're doing. You just can't! So... am I being honest with myself.. really? That's the first question. That's the integrity question...

I can't wait for you to hear the second question in the next blog post. Because Andy describes it as his, "**favorite of all the questions...**"

In the meantime, challenge yourself with these 3 follow up questions.

1. Is it easy or challenging to be honest with yourself? (Explain why?)
2. Is there a decision you are making currently in which being honest with yourself is challenging? (Explain)
3. Who can you trust to give you honest feedback on your answers?

**Watch the entire interview at XYZ**

