

CHOICES

By Sarah Jansson,

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Each and every day we have choices to make. Sometimes we have to make choices many times a day. Sometimes we have big choices to make, and sometimes we have small choices to make. Nevertheless, big or small, there are many times we are at a crossroad as to what choice, or choices to make in life. There are choices as to whom to marry, whether to have children or not, jobs, schools, careers, where to live, whether to buy a home or rent one, sometimes whether to move to another town. What church to go to, what Christian events we should go to, or get involved in, choices as to whether to buy a new car or stay with the old one a bit longer, and then what kind of car to buy and where to go to get one. What to spend our money on. These are all big choices, but there are many small choices throughout the day that we must make as well. Choices like what to eat or not eat, exercise, whether to call or visit certain individuals or not, whether to go to the doctors, or wait it out, and the list goes on and on, including what chores we want to tackle or put it off for another time. But we even have choices, as to what comes out of our mouths, whether to get angry at someone, or stay angry at them, watch tv shows we know Holy Spirit does not want us to watch, listen to music that is contrary to Gods Word, go to bars etc. and fellowship with the wrong type of people, and go in the places God is saying "No" too. It also involves making the choice to bring every thought into the obedi-

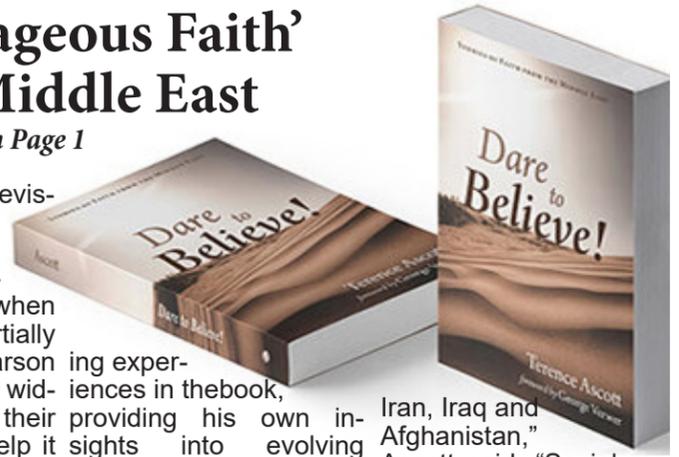
ence of the Holy Spirit and His Word, and not let our imaginations run wild, with doubt, unbelief of His Word, fear, anger, lust, covetousness, jealously, backbiting, gossip and one-up ship in ministry. This is why it is so very important to spend time in God's Word, and in His presence each and every day, especially first thing in the morning and bring your day into submission to His Word and to the foot of the cross. Surrender and yielding yourself to Him, more and more is the key. Jesus Himself prayed, "Not my will, but yours be done". So how much more so should this be as to whether to buy a new car or stay with the old one a bit longer, and then what kind of car to buy and where to go to get one. What to spend our money on. These are all big choices, but there are many small choices throughout the day that we must make as well. Choices like what to eat or not eat, exercise, whether to call or visit certain individuals or not, whether to go to the doctors, or wait it out, and the list goes on and on, including what chores we want to tackle or put it off for another time. But we even have choices, as to what comes out of our mouths, whether to get angry at someone, or stay angry at them, watch tv shows we know Holy Spirit does not want us to watch, listen to music that is contrary to Gods Word, go to bars etc. and fellowship with the wrong type of people, and go in the places God is saying "No" too. It also involves making the choice to bring every thought into the obedi-

flows from within you. When we choose to line up our actions with the Word of God, we are choosing life in that situation, whether we are understanding it at the time or not. Remember we do not go by what we think, hear or feel, as many times our feelings can lead us astray, but we bring all thoughts, and imaginations captive to the Word of God. Psalms 119 tells us to choose the way of truth and faithfulness. Deut. Tells us to choose this day whom you will serve. It says that if we make the choice to disobey, we choose death, but if we make the choice to obey the Word of the living God, we then choose-life. This is faith in action. The book of James says that faith without works is dead. Truthfully if we truly love Jesus, and have the Holy Spirit living within us, were going to care about what He cares about, and were going to care about what He wants, what Jesus wants, and has to say about the choices we have to make, big or small, as along with what is best for us. We will not want to grieve His Holy Spirit, by willfully making wrong choices, time after time. Thank God for first John one- nine though, and the precious power of the Blood of Jesus. Many Blessings, Sarah Jansson Heart of Mercy Ministries, An Apostolic/Prophetic Ministry sarahjansson.com Go to Amazon.com for my books (Out of Your Seats and Into the Streets, Breaking Loose, Deep Calls Unto Deep, The Divine Visitation) +++

'Courageous Faith' in Middle East

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At one point, the television ministry -- funded by donations -- was so popular in Egypt that when its studios were partially destroyed in an arson attack in 2002, local widows offered to sell their wedding rings to help it stay on the air. Hosted by local presenters, SAT-7's shows now reach more than 25 million people across the Middle East and North Africa in three regional languages -- Arabic, Persian and Turkish -- proving hugely popular even though less than 4% of the region's population is Christian. SAT-7 Bridges Religious, Social Differences Part of SAT-7's universal appeal across different religious and social backgrounds is its focus on "real people living out their faith," giving viewers hope in adversity, war and disaster. "Our goal was -- and remains today -- to make God's love visible to everyone," said Ascott, who re-lives nearly a half-century of fascinat-



ing experiences in thebook, providing his own insights into evolving ministry and faith in the Middle East. 'Unstoppable' Ministry Over the past 25 years, SAT-7 has beamed uncensored faith-based and educational shows directly into homes across the Middle East and North Africa -- an unstoppable ministry that's kept going through wars, political turmoil, national disasters, and the current pandemic. Advances in technology -- including video-on-demand -- have given the ministry opportunities to reach millions more people on their smartphones and other digital devices -- as well as connect personally with thousands of viewers via social media and online chat. 'Explosion of Interest' in Christianity "We've seen an explosion of interest in Christianity in places like

Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan," Ascott said. "Social media and phone apps like WhatsApp and Telegram give us a direct line of contact with millions of young people across the Middle East and North Africa, clamoring for hope and asking: 'Who is this Jesus?'" George Verwer, founder of Operation Mobilization -- one of the largest-ever global Christian mission movements -- described Ascott's book as "super relevant," saying it would help people "understand some of the historic background to the region and see the amazing faith of our brothers and sisters under persecution." For more about Dare to Believe! Stories of Faith from the Middle East, visit the website at www.terrenceascott.com/dare-to-believe. +++



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