

# YOUR MOVE

## WITH ANDY STANLEY

### Ask It Part 1: Question Everything

#### INTRODUCTION

What if there was a question that would clarify your best option for ninety percent of the decisions you make in life—a question that answers just about everything? It would have the potential to foolproof your relationships, marriage, finances, calendar, pace, and health. It would reduce the complexity of your life. It would save you time, money, and tears. You would carry around less regret. And best of all, you wouldn't have to apologize as much.

#### ICEBREAKER QUESTION

Talk about a time when you kept a New Year's resolution and it changed your life.

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some ways you've seen people make decisions based on their emotions?
2. What would be different about your life if you had made better decisions in the past?
3. Think about your future hopes and dreams. What are some opportunities your choices today could put you in danger of missing?

#### MOVING FORWARD

Of every invitation, opportunity, relationship, or decision, ask "What's the wise thing to do?" If you were going to do the wise thing, what would it be? By asking yourself that question, even if you don't follow through, you will discover something about yourself.

You owe it to yourself to know the answer to that question.

# Ask It Part 2: Musical Chairs

## INTRODUCTION

Solomon, the third king of Israel, wrote more about wisdom than any other biblical writer. He was considered by some to be the wisest man who ever lived. In his writing, he laid out three kinds of people who lack wisdom: the “simple” lack experience; “fools” know the difference between right and wrong, but don’t care; and “mockers” not only know the difference between right and wrong but are critical of those who choose to do right.

Eventually, people in each of these categories need wisdom.

## ICEBREAKER

Share about a time in your life when you demonstrated classic “simple,” “fool,” or “mocker” behavior, as described in this episode of *Your Move*. What was the impact?

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. If you could go back in time ten years and tell your younger self one thing, what would it be?
2. Have you ever traded what you wanted most for what you wanted in the moment?
3. What is an area of your life today where you tend to behave like a “simple” person, a “fool”, or a “mocker”? What can you do over the next week to approach life with wisdom—recognizing what you don’t know and seeking out people who do?

## MOVING FORWARD

The path of wisdom offers a way to live in safety, peace, and without fear of harm. But to leverage all that wisdom offers, you have to ask the question: In light of my past experience, current circumstances, and future hopes and dreams, what is the wise thing for me to do?

# Ask It Part 3: Time Over Time

## INTRODUCTION

You can make more money and you can make more friends, but you can't make more time. So, knowing what to do with your time matters.

## ICEBREAKER

When in your life have you been significantly impacted by another person's good or poor use of time?

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. If you made a pie chart depicting how you spend your time, what would be in the biggest slice?
2. What is one thing in your life you need to say no to for now? What stands in the way of saying no?
3. Where do you need to begin making consistent deposits of time? How can you start?

## MOVING FORWARD

Picture the future you want. In light of your past experience, current circumstances, and future hopes and dreams, where do you need to begin making consistent deposits of time? Re-prioritizing how you spend your time can set you up for healthy relationships and create a future without regret.

# Ask It Part 4: Edged Out

## INTRODUCTION

When it comes to making decisions, we all look for loopholes. We look for excuses to tell ourselves yes when we should tell ourselves no. We ask, *is there anything wrong with this? Is it illegal? Will it hurt anyone?* But it's a bad idea to assume that if something is not wrong, it's right. In no area is this more important than decisions related to our sexual expression. There's no area in which we're more prone to self-deception.

## ICEBREAKER

As a kid, did you tend to follow the crowd or go your own way? Explain.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why is it so easy for people to look at everyone else's lives and assume they want to be like everyone else? In what ways is that desire both unrealistic and unwise?
2. Where have you seen a series of small unwise choices turn into big regret in someone's life? Why do you think it was difficult for that person to see the potential consequences ahead of him/her?
3. Given our cultural landscape, how do you determine where to draw the line when it comes to sexual expression? Does it make sense to choose a more conservative boundary than absolutely necessary in order to avoid big pitfalls, or is that unrealistic?

## MOVING FORWARD

In light of your past experience, your current circumstances, and your future hopes and dreams, what's the wise thing for *you* to do? That question may seem extreme, but consider the stakes.

# Ask It Part 5: Hold my Hand

## INTRODUCTION

You always have something working against you when making personal decisions: *you*. Personal decisions are emotional, and emotionally-charged environments aren't ideal for decision-making. Your emotions make the obvious less obvious. This is why you're probably better at managing someone else's money than your own. It's why you know exactly what your neighbor needs to do about his marriage, but have no clue how to improve your own.

When it comes to making decisions, we have a real problem: it's next to impossible to hear the voice of wisdom when emotions are raging.

## ICEBREAKER

What's the best piece of advice you've ever gotten?

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you tend to be decisive or indecisive? How has that served you throughout your life? How has it let you down?
2. Talk about a time when you witnessed someone making a decision you knew was unwise. What prevented you from offering that person your advice?
3. Talk about a decision you've made—big or small—for which you'd like a do-over. How do you think your life would be different now if you'd asked for advice from trusted people before making that decision?

## MOVING FORWARD

Wise people ask for advice. Wise people know they don't know all they need to know, so they find people who do.

# Ask It Part 6: The Beginning

## INTRODUCTION

Your life is made up of a series of decisions, and you only get one shot. Why not make the best of it?

## ICEBREAKER

Talk about a memorable teacher or mentor and the impact he or she made on your life.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. During this episode, Andy compares our lives to works of art, paintings created by a series of decisions. Do you think most people believe they can paint a life that's a masterpiece? Why or why not?
2. When it comes to your life story, what small change now do you think could make a big difference later?
3. What would you like to be known for in your lifetime?

## MOVING FORWARD

There's one important question that we hope you will ask the rest of your life: *In light of my past experience, current circumstances, and future hopes and dreams, what's the wise thing for me to do?* How can this group help you begin to *ask it*?