

## **“A Very Difficult Decision”**

Mark 8:27-38

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by Rebecca Enney

So, life is really full of decisions isn't it? Should I get a chocolate ice cream cone, or should I get vanilla? Should I wear my green cap or not? Should I go up for the story this week? Often, little decisions do not make a big difference.

AND in life, there WILL be medium sized decisions to make. Should I share my football with this other child or should I keep it to myself, even if that makes the other child cry?

Yesterday when Mommy Potato and Polly and Haman had just gotten home from the grocery store and when they pulled into the driveway, Polly's friend next door came running over to play and Polly really wanted to play right then, but instead, she helped her mother carry in a bag of groceries. THEN Polly went out to play. That was kind of Polly. That was a good decision!

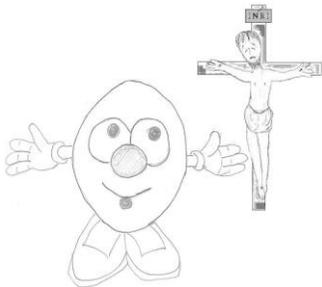
AND in life, sometimes there will be VERY DIFFICULT decisions to make. Those decisions can be selfish or helpful.

An example of a selfish decision made by Haman. You may remember that he had switched his second left arm with Polly, so that Haman finally had one left arm and one right arm and now he feels much better, but his sister Polly now had the dreaded affliction of TWOSAMEHANDS! That was a selfish decision by Haman.

And then Haman had his VERY DIFFICULT decision to make. Should he tell his parents what he did so that they could help Polly?? That would be helpful. Or should he remain quiet, or lie? That would be selfish.

Haman decided to tell his parents and now his sister Polly is doing MUCH better. This week the brace can be removed from her arm where the doctor replaced her tickleya bone, which of course you know is connected to the humorous bone, which is connected to the wish bone, which is connected to the funny bone. And everyone knows, you don't mess with the funny bone.

Haman knew it was the right thing to do, to tell his parents what he had done. However, it was very difficult to do.



Today's Bible lesson tells us that Jesus also had a very difficult decision to make. Jesus did definitely NOT want to have to die on the CROSS. NO WAY! He prayed and prayed and knew He had to do the right thing.

AND He had to tell His followers and friends before he went to the cross! At first, they could not believe He had to die on the cross. And then they wanted to talk Him out of it, but in the end, Jesus knew to do the right thing.

When we decide what to do, we should always work to do the kind and right thing, even when it is a VERY DIFFICULT DECISION!

THE END