

◇ Chapter 10  
Solve Problems in Your Life

Relationship Skills

MAKE ETHICAL DECISIONS

Some of the problems we encounter in life raise serious ethical questions, forcing us to consider our own value systems in making important decisions. Ethical questions are usually complicated and do not have simple right or wrong answers. Instead, we must examine what we have grown up believing to be right. Often we are then able to recognize the best thing to do.

**Directions:** Carefully consider each of the following dilemmas. Then write what you would do and explain why.

1. You witness your best friend taking money from the cash register at the store where you both work. You do not say anything to him. The next day the store manager asks you why 100 dollars is missing from the cash register.

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2. You are pulling out of a parking lot late one night and accidentally scrape the side of the car next to you. No one sees what happens. You know that the damage is minor and will not be covered by your insurance. You also realize that your car insurance will go up if the company is notified.

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3. You have met the person of your dreams and soon find yourself in a wonderful relationship. However, within a few weeks you learn that your partner has only six months to live. Your friends advise you to get out of the relationship.

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4. You are rushing to a sporting event in the next town when you drive past a large dairy farm and notice a young calf is caught in a barbed-wire fence near the road.

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5. You and a friend have just finished eating dinner in a nice restaurant. As you are getting ready to pay the bill, you realize that the waiter has not charged you for one of the entrees.

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6. You are in a grocery store and see a young mother being physically abusive toward her three-year-old son. The little boy is obviously frightened and confused.

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7. You observe your next-door neighbor walking her dog past your yard. The dog relieves itself by your front walk, but the neighbor does not clean up the mess. Your town has an ordinance stating that dog owners must clean up after their dogs.

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8. You have just made a new friend who invites you over for dinner. As you sit down at the table, you realize that you forgot to mention that you are a vegetarian. Just then your friend's mother brings out a large bowl of beef stew.

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