

## Selecting the Right Source

TVs can be complicated, especially if you attach multiple devices to them. The back of the TV contains several input jacks to connect a DVD player, ROKU, cable or satellite line and others. As a result signals are coming into the TV from all of these at one time. How does the TV know which signal to tune into? The answer is that your remote has a "Source" or "input" button. Push this button and then select the signal for it to connect. Sounds simple, but to many people, it is complicated.



The same is true of our everyday life. Life is complicated. We are getting competing signals, all at the same time. The world tells you what it accepts as appropriate behavior. Its acceptance is ever changing as the world constantly stretches the limits of what it considers to be OK. People may attempt to get you to try new behaviors, saying the old way is old-fashioned and out-of-date. They bait you with the statement "Times have changed" or "everyone is doing it." Think back to your teenage or college years. Out of sight from the influence of caring parents the world may have lured you into unhealthy behaviors. Peers are a powerful source of temptation since we want to be accepted. Going along with the crowd makes that more likely. "You only live once."

A second competing signal is parental influence. As a young child parental guidance is the most powerful force, but as you grow older, peer influence becomes increasingly impactful. The church provides other signals. Its signal is direction from the Bible. Depending on your peer group, signals from the church may differ greatly. The Word of God tells you to ignore what the world thinks is right. The Word is God never changes, so you don't need to keep up with the latest fad.

If your goal is to live a righteous life but you are influenced by worldly signals, the screen will say "no signal." You may be listening to the wrong direction. To solve that, pick up your remote and change the source. Seek signals from God as you make decisions about how to live your life. When you connect to the right signal what appears on the screen will be a clear picture of God's direction for your life.

Seek out answers to life's questions in the Bible. It is a never changing guide for a righteous life. We have to live in the world around us but we can live according to God's direction.

**The Bible Says:** *Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

**Question:** How do you reconcile the difference between what the world tells you and what the Bible tells you? Can you stand up to your peers and do your best to live according to God's Word?

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father. We live in a difficult world. Our world encourages us to test unhealthy behaviors and to make decisions because of our pursuit of popularity instead of what is right. Give us the strength to withstand the pressures of daily life and live according to your Word. Amen.