

# CRAIG GROESCHEL

LEADERSHIP PODCAST



## 145: 8 HABITS OF GREAT DECISION MAKERS, PART 1

### EPISODE NOTES

Thank you for joining the *Craig Groeschel Leadership Podcast*! The quality of your decisions determines the direction of your life—if you want to grow as a leader, grow in your decision making. In part one, Craig outlines five of the eight factors of great decision makers.

#### 1. Avoid “either-or” scenarios.

As often as you can, expand the options. There are rarely ever only two options when people bring two options to you.

For example, if someone comes to you and asks if they should hire another team member or not, you could expand the options and ask if two existing team members have the margin to fill that role.

Don't get stuck in the “either-or” as a leader.

#### 2. Decide when you're going to decide.

Most leaders tend to procrastinate on difficult decisions. Unfortunately, procrastination is the number one enemy of progress.

*“Procrastination is the number one enemy of progress.”*  
—Craig Groeschel

You have to remember: **No decision is a decision.**

If you're going to procrastinate, procrastinate on purpose. Actively and intentionally hold your decisions for a designated decision time.

Create a to-decide list, and work through those decisions in a set decision-making meeting.

When you do this, you create what Craig calls “decision momentum.” When you make one decision, you feel two things: *relief* and *confidence*. These feelings make the next decision easier to make.

#### 3. Become your own personal advisor.

To make better decisions, pretend you're advising someone else about the decision you're trying to make.

When you do this, you become emotionally detached from the decision and can see the situation more clearly.

There are two questions to ask when advising yourself:

1. What would a great leader do?
2. What would my successor do?

These questions elevate your perspective and compartmentalize your emotions when making decisions.

#### **4. Delegate as many decisions as possible.**

In the short run, delegating important decisions to inexperienced decision makers is risky. It's also necessary if you want to grow.

If you don't delegate decisions, you won't develop leaders. If you're the only one who can make important decisions, your need to control will become your greatest limiting factor.

*"If you don't delegate decisions, you won't develop leaders."  
—Craig Groeschel*

How many decisions should the top leaders make? If you want to lead a big organization and make a big difference, you want to make as few decisions as possible.

#### **5. Increase your tolerance for mistakes.**

If you're going to delegate more decisions, you need to increase our tolerance for mistakes.

You can't grow anything if you don't take risks. And if you want to take risks, you must tolerate mistakes.

Many leaders overestimate the risk of making a bad decision and underestimate the cost of making no decision.

You must have a big tolerance for error if you have a big appetite for growth.

*"Delegating decisions is one of the best ways to develop leaders."  
—Craig Groeschel*

**A final reminder:** Delegating tasks develops followers. Delegating authority develops leaders. Two of the most important words in your leadership vocabulary is "you decide."

#### **Discover Your Decision-Making Style**

There's so much to cover on the subject of decision making that I needed a full extra episode for one specific element. And because you're part of our leadership community, you get exclusive access to it.

In this brand-new teaching, we'll discover five types of decision makers and how you can identify your dominant and secondary styles.

Get the bonus episode here: <https://go2.ic/LGDecisionStyle>

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

Here are exercises you can do to grow as a leader—ask yourself and your team these questions:

1. Think about an “either-or” decision you’re facing right now that you could expand to three or more options. What is the decision and how could you expand it?

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2. Think about the three to five biggest decisions you have floating around in your head right now. Write them out in a to-decide list below and set a time to make all of the decisions at once.

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3. What is a big decision you could delegate today? Who would you delegate it to? How can you prepare yourself to increase your tolerance for mistakes?

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## **THINK AHEAD**

People often ask how I consistently make disciplined decisions. The answer? I make as many decisions as possible **ahead of time**. By doing this, I save time and decision-making energy.

There's an entire framework behind how I do it and I outline it in my latest book, *Think Ahead*. The book releases on February 20, but I'd love to invite you to preorder it today and get access to exclusive bonuses here: <https://go2.lc/LGTA>

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- More from Craig: [www.craiggroeschel.com](http://www.craiggroeschel.com)
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## **THREE KEYS TO SHARPEN YOUR LEADERSHIP**

Craig hand-picked three episodes designed to help you build a strong leadership foundation. You'll learn practical ways to influence your leaders, manage your time wisely, and improve how you communicate. Head to [www.go2.lc/threekeys](http://www.go2.lc/threekeys) to get the episodes and leader guides sent right to your inbox.

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