



# LESSON 5-6: Healthy Decision Making

## RECOVERING FROM A BAD DECISION

---

*“Success consists of going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm.”*  
-- Winston Churchill

*“Only those who dare to fail greatly can ever achieve greatly.”*  
-- Robert F. Kennedy

*“Success is not final; failure is not fatal: It is the courage to continue that counts.”*  
-- Winston Churchill

### WELCOME & PRAYER

### PREVIOUS LESSON FOLLOW UP

- What were the results of your conversation with someone whom you were in conflict?

### KICK OFF QUESTIONS

- Describe a time in your life when you made a poor decision. This could either be personal or professional. What were the circumstances that allowed you to realize that this was a poor decision? What did you do about it?

### PRIMARY SCRIPTURES

“Dress yourselves in humility as you relate to one another, for God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” (1 Peter 5:5b)

**Discussion Question:** How well do you clothe yourself with humility? How does humility play a role in reflecting on past decisions?

### DECISIONS

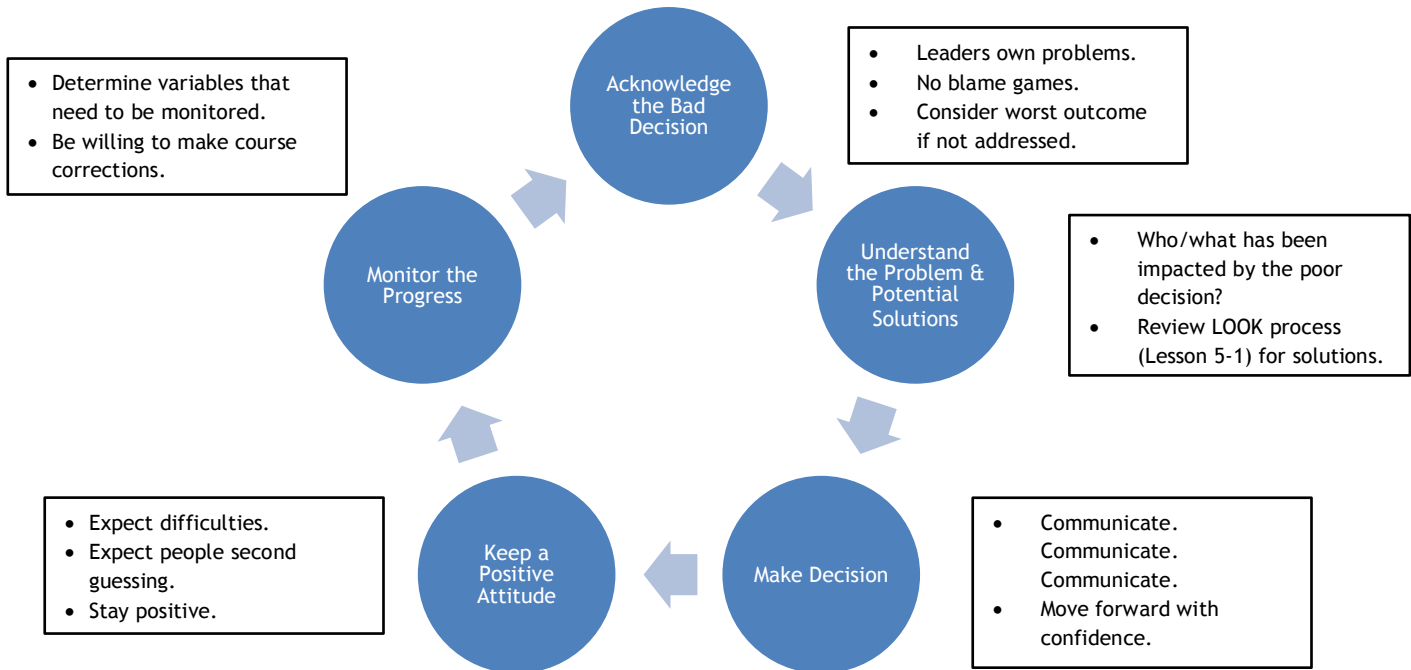
No matter how hard we all try, at some point we will make a bad decision. The sooner we recognize that a bad decision has been made, the more quickly we can develop a solution. The longer we ignore the problem, the more conflict and pain it will create for us and those around us.

In order to recover from a bad decision, we must follow a process that requires courage and humility. At times, the process will be challenging and painful. And even though you can recover, there will be consequences to every bad decision. But there is hope in any situation if handled properly.

## CONCEPTS TO UNDERSTAND

- A bad decision is not a fatal decision.
- You can recover from a bad decision.
- You will (should) learn lessons from a bad decision.

## PROCESS FOR RECOVERING FROM A BAD DECISION



**No decision is fatal.** Some may require a longer, tougher road to recovery, but there is always hope. Our history books are filled with stories of people who made incredibly bad decisions. What defines those people, though, is how they responded.

**Truth:** When you own the problem, apologize, and ask for forgiveness, those affected will likely give you grace. When you blame others, you get no grace. A proud person does not admit mistakes. It takes humility to admit when you are wrong.

## Exercise

Complete the matrix exercise at the end of this lesson. What is a decision you have made that, in retrospect, was not the right decision? Use this form to help you process the steps above. As with most things, nothing happens until you have a plan. Planning is the important part. As you implement the plan, tweaks will be necessary. Good luck!



## Discussion Questions

1. How well do you own bad decisions?
2. If you are the organizational leader, how well do you own bad decisions that were made within your organization where you might not have had direct involvement in the decision itself?
3. How well do you maintain a positive attitude when faced with adversity? What are things you do to maintain a positive attitude?
4. In looking at the bad decision you identified above, how would the outcome have been different if you had addressed the problem the moment you recognized it?
5. In the process identified above, in what parts do you feel you are strong and where do you struggle?

## TAKE ACTION

- After completing this lesson, what personal or professional decision do you need to own? What corrective action do you need to take? Present your plan at the next group meeting.

## CLOSING PRAYER





## Recovering from a bad decision

Original Decision:	
Problem the decision created:	
Potential Solutions (list all relevant possibilities - evaluate using LOOK process):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>
Decision:	
Key Communication Points:	
Important Variables to Monitor:	
Any Mid-course Correction:	

