

The background features a light green gradient with abstract, flowing, translucent green lines that create a sense of movement and depth. The lines are most prominent on the left side and curve towards the right.

Whoever knows  
the right thing to do  
and fails to do it,  
for him it is sin.

-James 4:17

## **James 4:17**

- Anyone, then who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins. (NIV)
- The one knowing the good to do and not doing it, sin to him. [literal]

I should not, but I do... “**commission**”

I should, but I do not... “**omission**”

\* **Knowledge** and **responsibility** go hand in hand!

*Why do we not do what we know we should?*

- **Neglect** We judge “God’s will” to be unpleasant, unpopular, or difficult, and we decide to occupy our time with what seems to be more fun or fulfilling.

*Why do we not do what we know we should?*

- **Disregard**      We purposefully ignore God's will motivated by **fear** or **defiance**.

It would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than to have known it and then turn their backs on the sacred command that was passed on to them.

*(11 Peter 2:21)*

# HOW DO I KNOW?

- Scripture/Prayer
- Talent/Time
- Opportunity/Need

**MISTAKEN OPTIMISM.** Many folks are careful to refrain from doing “bad,” yet ignore doing “good” and **comfort themselves** with the conviction they have not sinned.



Woe to you, hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices, but neglect more important matters of the law (justice, mercy, faithfulness). You should practice the latter WITHOUT NEGLECTING the former. Blind guides! You strain out a gnat and swallow a camel. *(Mt. 23:23-24)*

God's assessment of my life will be based on **objective** fact and **subjective** commitment/dedication to what I know I "ought to do."

If anyone builds... using gold, silver, gems, wood, hay or straw, his work will be shown for what it is... the fire will test the quality [sincerity] of each man's work. IF what he has built survives, he will receive his reward. If it is burned up, he will suffer loss. He himself will be saved, but only as one escaping through the flames. *(1 Cor. 3:13-15)*