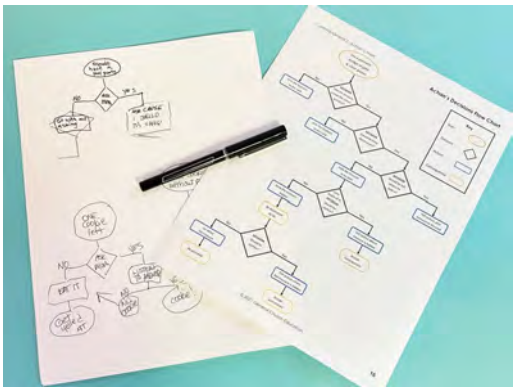
# Ages 11-14: Achan's Decision Flow Chart

### Materials Needed

copies of *Achan's Decision Flow Chart*, blank paper, pencils or pens

### Prepare in Advance

Print copies of *Achan's Decision Flow Chart*.



A flow chart provides a way of visualizing a sequence of decisions made and actions taken. It helps students identify links between their thoughts and actions and the consequences they bring. Achan's choice to hide the items he stole shows that he knew he was making a choice to do something wrong. Using Achan's choice as an example, this activity helps students identify points at which they make critical decisions, and highlights the fact that the Lord repeatedly provides opportunities to turn back to Him.

1. What choices did Achan have when he saw the treasure in Jericho?
2. At what point did Achan know he was doing something against the Lord's Commandments? (When he took the treasure for himself.)
3. When Achan saw the treasure, he experienced a temptation—a choice of whether to take something he was attracted to when he knew it was wrong. From time to time everyone experiences temptations like Achan's. What kinds of temptation have you experienced? How easy or hard was it to choose what you should do?
4. Hand out copies of *Achan's Decision Flow Chart*. After making a wrong choice, how many opportunities did Achan have to make better choices?
5. This flow chart helps us see the many opportunities the Lord gave Achan to think about his actions. Choose a decision you have faced or imagine one that might happen. Design your own flow chart using the different kinds of boxes to show choices you made or could have made. Discuss your chart with the class.

### New Church Concept

Teacher Background

Some have reasoned about the influx of all thoughts and affections [as coming from either heaven or hell], and said, if this idea were true, then no one could be found guilty or pay the price for any offence. But they were told in reply that if people were to believe as things really are, which is that everything good and true comes from the Lord and everything evil and false from hell, they could not be found guilty of any offence or had evil ascribed to themselves. But because they believe that it begins in themselves, they take evil as their own; for their belief causes this to happen. Thus evil clings and cannot be separated from them. See *Arcana Coelestia* 6324

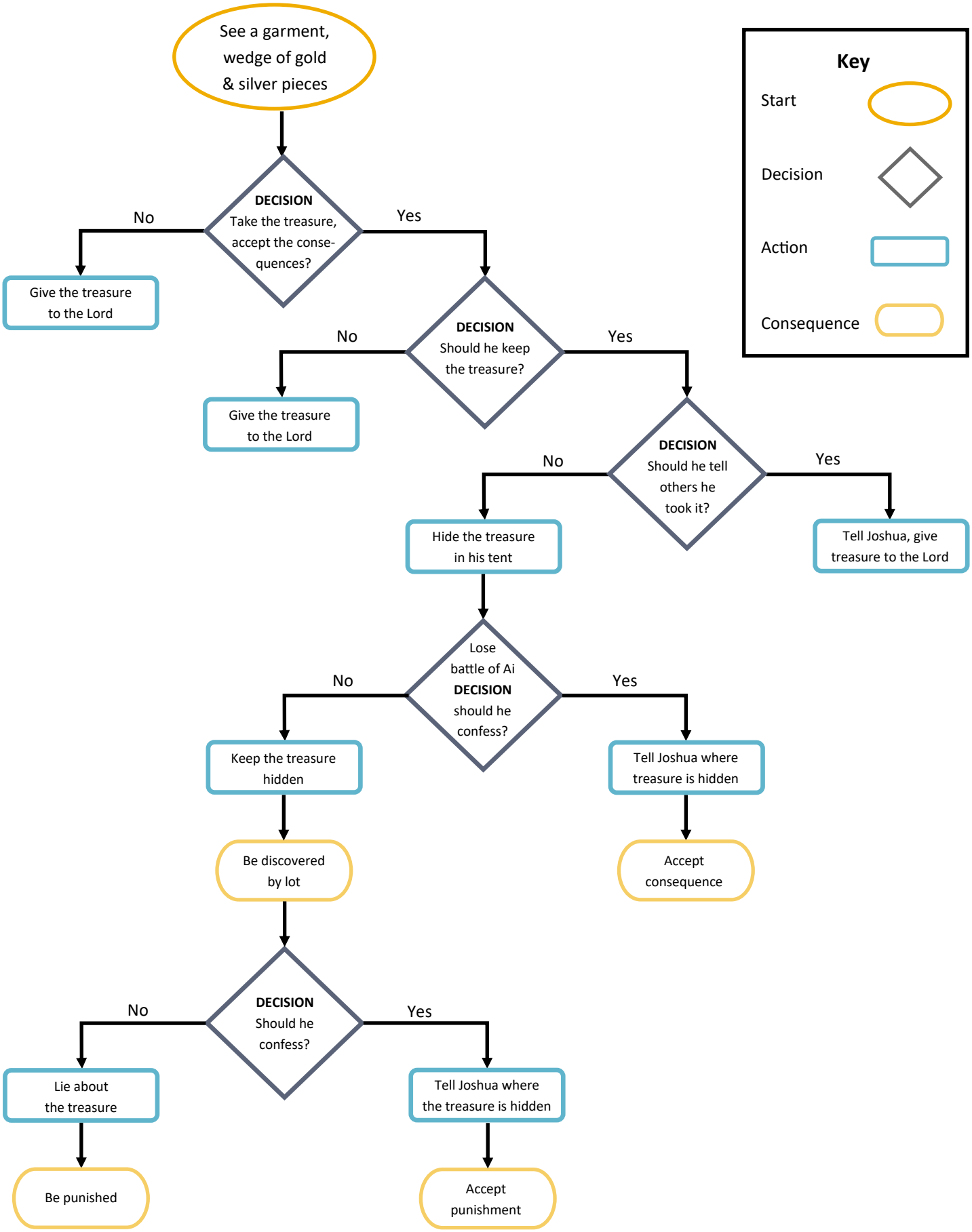
### New Church Concept

Teacher Background

The laws of spiritual life, civil life, and moral life are set forth in the ten commandments. In the first three commandments are the laws of spiritual life, in the four that follow the laws of civil life, and in the last three the laws of moral life. In external form, the merely natural person lives in accordance with the same commandments in the same way as the spiritual person does. But all these they do merely for the sake of themselves and the world, for the sake of appearances; while in internal form such a person is the direct opposite of what they appear in external form, since in heart they deny the Divine. Consequently, they are wholly disjoined from heaven, and not being a spiritual person they are neither a moral person nor a civil person. Although they do not steal, yet they covet the goods of others. In intent they are continually acting the thief. See *Heaven and Hell* 531

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# Achan's Decisions Flow Chart




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