

New Believer Lesson- Knowing and Doing the Will of God

What is the Will of God and how do we understand it?

1. Get alone with God

-Getting alone with God is the best way God can speak directly to you. Prayer is the means he works through. Practice speaking and listening to God is prayer daily.

2. Learn to distinguish the different Voices that speak to us

-One of the best ways to do this is prayer and meditation on the Word. Building a Pray life allows us to enter God's very presence where all peace or peace of mind and serenity is achieved,

It takes a lifetime to learn about God but prayer is vital in our communication with God. It teaches us to depend on him and to listen to his voice. Below are three types of voices we must learn to distinguish the difference between so we are do not become deceived:

1. **The world** – those unknown voices around us telling us to go here and there and busy our minds
2. **Flesh/Our Own Voice**- things we dwell on or think about that we not of God
3. **The Devil**- the enemy putting thoughts in our minds

3. Understand that God wants you to know his perfect will.

-The best way to learn God's will is to obey His Word and it takes practice. Practicing basic principles of Scripture based on verses like **Romans 12:3** - "Do not conform...but be transformed by the renewing of your mind then you can test and approve Gods will"... NIV Learn that this is a lifetime of learning and being directed by God's Spirit.

4. Always tell God what's on your heart, laying every matter at his feet

-the option that goes the farthest in your Spirit prayerfully is the most likely the will of God. All that is done through confession brings freedom and openness to God

Proverbs 28:13- "Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy". NIV

often we learn from that peace the Lord places in our Spirit.

5. Always read God's Word first and foremost for direction.

-Read verses that especially deal directly with circumstances like yours. For example if you are suffering from illness it helps to refer to verses on illness etc...

Such verses that deal with things you're dealing with build our faith and give us motivation to keep enduring the trials we are in.

Ex- the book of Job

6. **Be guided by that great peace within that God gives you daily**

-according to his word God alone gives perfect peace

Isaiah 26:3 says this about receiving peace- “You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you.”

Always seek out an answer from the Word and wait for God to confirm it, by prayer, through others and with his perfect peace He gives. This will ensure that you’ve made the the right decision.

NOTE: SOMETIMES WE MAY FIND THAT WE MUST BE CONTENT TO WAIT FOR GOD’S PERFECT TIMING AND WHAT THE FUTURE WILL UNFOLD. GOD DOES NOT ALWAYS SHOW US WHY HE DOES WHAT HE WANTS.

7. **Guidance often given in a lot of cases is not sought or asked for.**

- God gives us direction or leading through a source that we did not expect or ask for. It's often an unexpected guidance we did not even seek out, this is when we must seek out His discernment for our lives.

8. **God will Guide you through the natural processes of your mind.**

-this is one reason why you need to live a victorious life in the “Spirit” avoiding sin at any cost.

Romans 12:1-3 is the key to understanding this truth...

It’s a process of conforming and transforming our minds and thought's to line up with the Lord's. This becomes an ongoing process the rest of our lives!

The battle begins and ends in the mind!!!!

Romans 8:5-12 says -

"Put to death the earthly desires of the flesh"- We must live by the Spirit, having the fruit of the Spirit in action in our lives, according to **Galatians 5:22-3**

Discouragement comes but here are some Keys to follow when trying to obey His Will:

1. *Always reflect upon where God brought you from and what he has done for you remembering all his faithfulness , it builds faith and keeps us in line with **Hebrews – 11:2** “faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see”.*

Its often easier to see what he has done by looking back upon his faithfulness

2. Live a Spirit filled life and God’s will and his hand will be more easily seen and understood. It's vital we learn to live by the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

3. Don't try to understand the mysteries of life- example – pain and suffering, disabilities or accidents - walk slowly and steadily, daily obeying God as in a Father and Son relationship.
4. Keep a clear conscience, free from condemnation and guilt. A clear conscience will enable you to think more freely and overcome attacks from the "evil one" more quickly

Note– if someone tells you something that they think is from God for your life and is a word of wisdom, make sure it lines up with what God has already told you in prayer and from his Word. It should never be new information God has not introduced for your life or spoken into your life present.

There are some “Gray areas” to avoid in approaching God’s Will for your life:

Here are some questions to ask yourself in determining God's Will for your life:

1. Does what I'm doing or about to do bring glory to God? **1Cor. 10:31** Is it good or bad in the eyes of others?
2. Does it benefit God and others? **1Cor. 10:23** Does it display a Christ like Character?
3. Does it have a tendency to enslave me in Sin? **1Cor. 6:12**
Does it bring bondage to my Christian walk or does it strengthen me?
4. Will it strengthen me and guard my life against Temptation? **Mat 6:13** The Lord's prayer, do we pray it? Are we asking -" Lord lead us not into temptation"?
5. Is what I do characteristic of worldly actions or those of the Father ? **1 John 2:15, Heb. 12:1**
Are my pleasures and entertainment good or bad if it were viewed by others of the faith?
6. Do my decisions affect others or cause others to stumble around me? **1 Cor. 8:13, Rom. 13:10, Romans 14:16, 21-23**

Obeying the will of God is a learning process and it takes a lifetime to achieve. But living, walking daily in his presence, obeying his Word is a great place to start. Focus on learning to listen to His voice in prayer and to those that are over you in the faith, pastor's leaders, those you respect in the faith.

The Bible says in **Proverbs 27:17** - "Iron sharpens Iron" plainly said it means that others who have that edge of wisdom for you that word to strengthen you in that moment you need direction and encouragement, that new hope and new discernment for your situation, that is a sharpening of Iron!

This is a very important lesson on learning what God has next in your life!!

