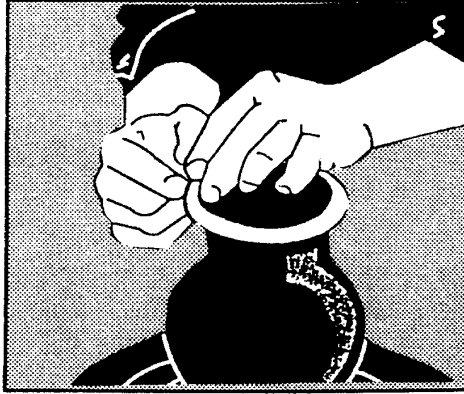


Lesson
9

The Will of God

“How Do I Find God’s Will for My Life?”



An individual once said that a successful Christian is one who finds out what God wants him to accomplish with his life and then fulfills it. That is a profound statement. The true measure of a Christian’s success is not his social status, his bank account, his influence, or his fame. It is found in doing what God wants him to do.

LESSON 9

The purpose of this lesson is to give you a basic understanding of what the will of God is, as revealed in the Bible, so you can begin to accomplish those things God would have you to accomplish.

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INTRODUCTION

One of the questions most often asked is this: “How can I know the will of God?” Young people who face important choices often express their desire to know the will of God. Not only young people, but **all Christians** should desire to know God’s will in the choices they make.

Often the will of God is thought to be something mystical and just beyond the reach of most Christians. Someone compared knowing God’s will to finding hidden treasures, only a few with a special map can ever hope to find the treasure, or at best one might stumble and find the treasure by accident. Too many people have settled for believing that the best this life can offer is just beyond their grasp. Thus many become content living a life of mediocrity.

Is this true? Must we be content to live our Christianity with this kind of attitude? The answer is “NO!” We can know God’s will for our life! There is nothing that will bring more satisfaction in this world than knowing God’s will for our life and doing it.

In this Bible study you will learn some basic concepts about how to find God’s will through careful study and application of His Word.

GOD’S REVEALED WILL FOR OUR LIFE

1. According to Proverbs 3:5-6, what does God want you to do?

2. What does God promise you in Psalm 32:8?

3. What does God reveal about His will in the following verses?

I Thessalonians 4:3 _____

I Thessalonians 5:18 _____

I Peter 2:15 _____

PRINCIPLES TO DETERMINE GOD’S WILL

Sometimes we face decisions and the Bible does not give a clear statement about the issues we are confronting. When this occurs, there are principles that should govern our life as we make these choices. We should carefully consider several concepts so that they become a part of our decision making process.

Look for Principles from the Bible

1. Though there may not be specific statements, there may be principles that can guide you as you make choices.

In your own words, state the principles contained in the following verses:

- a. Matthew 6:33

- b. I Corinthians 10:31

- c. Philippians 2:4

- d. Colossians 3:17

Lesson 9

2. Some basic principles which can help in making decisions might be these:
 - a. Am I putting God's desires before my own?
 - b. Will this action glorify God?
 - c. Will this action enhance my walk with God?
3. From these verses, jot down some questions that would help you determine God's will.
 - a. I Corinthians 6:12
 - b. I Corinthians 6:19-20
 - c. I Corinthians 8:9
 - d. I Corinthians 9:19

God’s Word provides principles to guide us in making decisions. As we become aware of these and begin to practice them, they become a part of us. At first we must think them through carefully but in time they become part of our thought process. This is what the Bible speaks about in these verses:

Romans 12:2 “...the renewing of your mind.”

Philippians 2:5 “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.”

We begin to think like Christ thinks because we apply Bible principles in making decisions.

Listen to the Spirit’s Leading

The second principle in determining God’s will is to be alert to the Holy Spirit as He directs in our life.

NOTE: The Holy Spirit always leads in connection with the Scriptures. His directing in our life will **NEVER** lead us contrary to the Word of God. **He does not work apart from it!**

1. According to Romans 8:14, what does the Holy Spirit do in all believers?

2. In Romans 8:26-27, what ministries does the Holy Spirit perform in your life that will help you know God’s will?

3. Read Galatians 5:16-25.

a. What are you commanded to do?

b. Why are you commanded to do this?

c. What fruit results when you are obedient and walk in the Holy Spirit?

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

6) _____

7) _____

8) _____

9) _____

The Holy Spirit will lead you in accordance with the **Will of God** and **the Word of God**. If you learn to know Him and you commit yourself to a life of obedience, **YOU WILL KNOW THE WILL OF GOD!**

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

1. Proverbs 15:22 teaches that you should seek what from other Christians you can trust?

When making major decisions, it is always wise to seek the counsel of good Christians you can trust because you know they are walking in God's will.

2. According to I Thessalonians 5:17, what should you do?
3. Look up the following verses and consider the choices made by some of the people in the Bible.
 - a. Joshua 24:15
 - b. II Timothy 4:10
 - c. Hebrews 11:25-26

CONCLUSION

The key to knowing God's will is finding out what the Word of God teaches. The Word of God is where we find the will of God. The key to doing God's will is obedience. When we find out what God says in His Word and obey it, we will perform the will of God. We should NEVER be afraid of the will of God for our life. Nothing can bring more delight to our life than doing what God would have us to do.

Write down any questions you may have regarding this lesson.

Memory Verse *Romans 12:1-2*



