

“Father Knows Best”
‘Knowing the Will of God for Your Life’

As we read through the pages in our bibles, we see how people are blessed when they follow the instructions of God and how they are unhappy when they disobey God’s advice. This is still the same today. True joy and contentment are found by following the will of God. This teaching will help you discover God’s plan for your life, and experience the satisfying and fulfilling life that He wants you to have.

God is our Father and He loves us and calls us His children.

2 Corinthians 6:18 *“I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty.” (NKJ)*

Psalms 68:5 *“A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, Is God in His holy habitation.” (NKJ)*

We can call Him Abba, Daddy God and come to Him every day for guidance and direction in living our lives.

Hebrews 4:16 *“So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it.” (NLT)*

What is the will of God?

First: The will of God is full of blessings

Psalms 1:1 *“Blessed (Happy, fortunate, prosperous and enviable) is the man who walks and lives not in the counsel of the ungodly (following their advice, their plans and purposes)...V2: But his delight and desire are in the law of the Lord...” (AMP)*

Second: God wants the very best for us

James 1:17 *“Whatever is good and perfect comes to us from God above, who created all heaven’s lights.” (NLT)*

Third: God’s will is that we would be joyful, grateful, prayerful and appreciative people.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 *“Always be joyful. Keep on praying. No matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.” (NLT)*

Fourth: God’s will is not always fashionable or easy

Romans 12:2 *“Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will know what God wants you to do, and you will know how good and pleasing and perfect His will really is.” (NLT)*

How can you know for sure what God's will is for your life?

First we must decide whether or not we will serve God and follow His instructions.

Joshua 24:15 "...But as for me and my family, we will serve the LORD." (NLT)

Know that God never contradicts His word. He will never ask you to compromise your relationship with Him or your integrity.

Numbers 23:19 "God is not a man, that he should lie. He is not a human, that he should change his mind." (NLT)

Realize it is up to us to search for God's will for our lives.

Psalm 119:10 "With my whole heart have I sought You, inquiring for and of You and yearning for You; O let me not wander or step aside (either in ignorance or willfully) from your commandments." (AMP)

Pray and ask God for His wisdom and guidance.

Colossians 1:9-10 "We ask God to give you a complete understanding of what he wants to do in your lives, and we ask him to make you wise with spiritual wisdom. Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and you will continually do good, kind things for others. All the while, you will learn to know God better and better." (NLT)

Trust that God will direct your decision-making.

Proverbs 3:5 "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths." (NKJ)

God is very interested in how we live our lives

He wants to lead us to a better way of living and out of a life that is ineffective.

Isaiah 1:19 "If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land." (NKJ)

Understand that obedience is not works; it's letting someone who knows the way guide us. It brings deliverance and the blessings of God.

Matthew 7:21 "Not everyone who says to Me, Lord, Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who **does** the will of My Father who is in heaven."

Accept the fact that God created us and knows what is best for us.

Proverbs 2:1-10 "My child, listen to me and treasure my instructions. Tune your ears to wisdom, . . . He is their shield, protecting those who walk with integrity...Then you will understand what is right, just, and fair, and you will know how to find the right course of action every time. For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will fill you with joy." (NLT)

As a loving father God speaks to us in different ways.

As we read and study the bible, God will make His will known to us.

Romans 2:18 "By reading the Scriptures you learn how God wants you to behave, and you discover what is right." (CEV)

Hebrews 4:12 “For the word of God is full of living power. It is sharper than the sharpest knife, cutting deep into our innermost thoughts and desires. It exposes us for what we really are.” (NLT)

God often reveals His will through an impression in your heart or inner knowing.
1Kings 19:11-13 “Go out and stand before me on the mountain,” the LORD told him. And as Elijah stood there, the LORD passed by, and a mighty windstorm hit the mountain. It was such a terrible blast that the rocks were torn loose, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. And after the earthquake there was a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire there was the sound of a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.” (NLT)

God also speaks to us through the preached word. The words that are preached will bear witness with our spirit. It is so important to make a commitment to attend church so that we get a balanced teaching of the word of God. This will help us to grow spiritually strong and mature in the things of God.

God also speaks through His prophets.
Matthew 23:34 “Therefore, indeed, I send you prophets, wise men, and scribes...” (NKJ)

Evidence that you are in the will of God:

You should have a sense of peace about the decision.

Isaiah 26:3 You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, whose thoughts are fixed on you!” (NLT)

James 3:17 “But the wisdom from above is first of all pure (undefiled); then it is peace loving, courteous (considerate, gentle) [It is willing to] yield to reason, full of compassion and good fruits; it is wholehearted and straight forward, impartial and unfeigned (free from doubts, wavering and insincerity). (AMP)

You’ll receive affirmation from others. When making major decisions, it’s important to share your thoughts with trusted advisors.

Proverbs 24:6 “...in an abundance of counselors there is victory and safety.” (AMP)

Proverbs 1: 5 “...a man of understanding will attain wise counsel.” (NKJ)

You will receive confirmation from the word of God.

Psalms 119:105 “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” (AMP)

Finally: We must learn to be patient and wait on God to fulfill His promises.

Hebrews 10:35-36 “Keep on being brave! It will bring you great rewards. Learn to be patient, so that you will please God and be given what he has promised.” (CEV)

Questions:

- 1a. Give some examples of where you might need to know the will of God.
- b. What would be the benefits in each case if you found the will of God and what would be the consequences if you didn't?

2. If you needed to know the will of God right now, what are some different ways that you could go about finding it? Explain

3. If you are looking for God's will, what are some ways to know that you have heard from God? Give some examples.

- 4a. What is the difference between Godly wisdom and worldly wisdom?
- b. Give some examples of each, and how worldly wisdom and Godly wisdom can conflict.

- 5a. What role, if any, should the bible play in guiding our daily lives?
- b. Can it be relied upon to provide practical/relevant answers?