

How to Know the Will of God

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I. Introduction.

- A. This is an ambitious project.
- B. This is really about suggestions.
- C. The greatest joy of life is to know that one is in the will of God with great conviction.
- D. Visiting God's personality factory - our place of origins. (Psalm 139:14)
 - 1. It is not our bodies that are fearfully and wonderfully made but our souls.
 - 2. The Psalm refers to the very beginning of origins the speaker believes.
 - 3. God and God alone controls the formula for the ratio of genes and chromosomes that make us up. And each person is designed with a unique formula.
 - 4. God has created each person differently to contribute to the body like he has created the stars differently to contribute to the symphony of the universe. (1 Corinthians 15:41; Job 38:6)
 - 5. It is dishonoring to God to be dissatisfied with the way God has made us. God has a special name for us showing us that we are special to God. (Romans 9:20; Revelation 2:17)

II. Finding the general will of God for your life. (Ephesians 5:17)

- A. The first clue to uncovering what God expects of us is in the desires that grow out of our basic endowment. (Psalm 37:4; Psalm 137:9)
 - 1. The speakers old desires were to travel and to live comfortably with a comfortable job .
 - 2. Seventy-five percent of people were dissatisfied with their job in one study.
 - 3. God has given us talents to be used for his glory.
- B. The general call of God for everyone is to be a Christian laymen using his talents for the glory of God in the place that God has put him. The calling goes with the gifts. (Romans 11:25)
- C. For some God gives a special shepherd's heart that calls them out of a secular occupation. (Jeremiah 3:15; 23:4)
- D. God has created you differently and He is intensely interested in you. He wants you to use your talents for His glory, and occasionally he will call you out to be a shepherd for His people.

III. How to find the will of God for the general affairs of your life.

A. You have to get into a neutral attitude about it being willing to be happy about whatever God does. Not being neutral about the will of God is a sure step to not know it.

1. God alerts us through dissatisfaction in the midst of success. He shows us that we need to change. When we come to the right thing the light becomes bigger and surrounds us. (Psalm 130:6)

2. God changes pace to greet a sinner who has become a Christian (Luke 15), but he is on pace with a Christian. Your responsibility begins when He reveals the light.

B. Get all the information you can on the subject.

1. A man's judgment is often no better than his information.

2. God often leads through information on the subject.

3. William Carey, who helped to initiate the modern missions movement, read about information in India before he was given the burden to go there.

C. Test what you are contemplating by Scripture.

1. Is it Scriptural? Has God given a specific verse on the subject?

2. God does lead through a specific verse of Scripture, but not always.

3. Test the conviction by Scripture in context.

D. Test by sustained inner conviction.

1. God leads people by the Holy Spirit.

2. You tell that the Holy Spirit is leading you in contrast to Satan's persecution by His consistency.

E. Test by providential circumstances. Circumstances often win out over other felt leadings.

F. Test through counsel by those who walk with God.

IV. Conclusion.

A. It is dishonoring to question why God made you a certain way.

B. We must be the individual and enact the purposes that God created us for.

C. Be neutral and seek good counsel.

D. You were made for good works. (Ephesians 2:10)

God's Will

How to Discern the Will of God



Application questions.

1. What would the speaker say the foundation for knowing the will of God is? What must you first know about yourself?

2. Summarize the speaker's tests to determining God's guidance.

3. What issues are you seeking God's guidance for? Have you come to a place of "neutrality" concerning them? What will you do to hear His guiding in these matters?
