Study Guide (?) : <u> </u>	
Discerning God's Will	
SESSION GOALS	
The point of every session is a main idea with the goal of what we want to walk away from the discussion with—knowing, feeling, and doing.	
 Main Idea: Discerning God's will through spiritual disciplines helps us get clarity in decision making. Head Change: Identify patterns in our life that have not been helpful, while simultaneously recalibrating how we discern God's will. Heart Change: Identify heart idols that could be a hindrance in discerning God's will, repent from them and posture ourselves correctly to discern God's will. Life Change: Instill healthy habits and spiritual disciplines that will help us make decisions with clarity and confidence. 	
OPEN	
righRemember a time when you had to make a big decision in your life. What were some methods or tools you adopted to make this decision? And in hindsight, how do you feel this decision affected your life for better or worse?	
Is this the right career choice? Is she the one? Should I move to a new city for this job? Should I buy the bitcoin dip?	
A person's life is dotted with decisions daily— some big and many small ones. Decision making can seem difficult to get right as we fear the outcome of our decisions. With our limited human	

intelligence, we can never know all the variables that have to go into making decisions. And that's	
why it's not uncommon for us to depend on	
supernatural signs to 'lead' us while making decisions. "I wish God would just show me in a	
dream!" or "If I open the Bible randomly and put	
my finger on a verse, it will show me what to do!"	
While God can talk through supernatural ways, we	
can miss the beautiful journey of knowing Him by	
discerning His will through our everyday spiritual walk. In this session, Pastor Ranjit warns us of few	
pitfalls which can be destructive as we	
contemplate choices, and a more gospel-centered way in discerning God's will.	
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As you watch the video, note how Ranjit answers these questions.	
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What is the key reason for why God does not simply reveal His plan to us?	
What are the five Cautions while discerning God's	
will. Which one stands out for you the most?	
What are the five Obstacles to discerning God's	
will?	
What are the three Components in discerning	
God's will?	
What is the primary purpose of prayer?	
WATCH	
Session 2: Discerning God's will (13 Minutes)	

REVIEW	
The first Caution that Ranjit mentions in discerning God's will is to "stop looking for the miraculous." Have you made decisions based on miraculous	
signs? How was this experience for you? What could be some dangers while only looking for the miraculous in our decision making?	
Another common method which Christians employ is laying out the fleece. Do you feel this can be an	
accurate way to discern God's heart for us? Have you done it? How has this method been helpful or unhelpful for you?	
Ranjit lists out five Obstacles to discerning God's	
will. Can you reflect on a biblical incident or even your own life where these were obstacles to	
discerning God's will?	
In listing the three Components in how God guides us in decision making, Ranjit makes the statement that prayer is not about asking God for	
things but seeking His heart. How do you experience seeking God's heart? What are some changes in the way we pray, that a follower of	
Christ should make to show this posture towards prayer?	
What are heart idols? How can heart idols be a hindrance in knowing God's will? How do we	
identify the idols of our heart?	
Ranjit also shares that the counsel of God's people can be a key component in discerning God's will.	
Who in your life can you look to for wise counsel? How has their input been a help to you?	

BIBLE EXPLORATION	
Read Isaiah 59:2. Ranjit mentions this passage in his talk. How can sin make us walk blind in discerning His will?	
How does this verse interact with Romans 12:1–2?	
Read Numbers 13. This well-known passage tells the story about Moses sending the 12 spies to explore Canaan. Apart from Joshua and Caleb, every other spy was sure they would not be able to conquer the land. What made it difficult for the 10 spies to discern God's will in this situation?	
How do Joshua and Caleb process that they are extremely confident in taking out the inhabitants of this new land?	
LAST WORD	
There is always a tension between knowing and not knowing God's will. Sometimes we can be pressed for time and quick decisions can leave us frustrated, tired and maybe even angry with God. But God is more interested in the process. The journey of unlearning unhealthy practices in discerning God's will and re-aligning ourselves to know His heart, trust in His goodness and exercise faith is much more beautiful than the decision itself. While we might be controlled by fear on one side, our heavenly Father rejoices when we take decisions with confidence knowing that He guides us, corrects us and leads us in this process.	