

## **How to Have God's Best**

God wants to take us much further than where we currently are. He has a vision for our lives that goes beyond what we can imagine. But to reach that vision, we need to embrace His heart and His plan rather than simply following our own desires.

### **What Does God Want You to Do?**

The most important question we should ask ourselves is not "What do I want to do?" but rather "What does God want me to do?" There's something powerful about knowing you're doing exactly what you were created for in the moment you're doing it. When you're in God's perfect will for your life, you experience a sense of purpose that can't be matched by following your own plans.

Living in God's will is key to experiencing a long, healthy, prosperous, fruitful, and blessed life. Outside of His will, there are no guarantees.

### **Three Levels of God's Will**

Romans 12:1-2 tells us: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

There are three levels of God's will:

- Good (30% fruit)
- Acceptable (60% fruit)
- Perfect (100% fruit)

Many people settle for "good" when God wants to take them to "perfect." Good is better than nothing, but God doesn't want us to be satisfied with just the basics.

## How Do We Move Toward God's Perfect Will?

There are two key components to discovering and living in God's perfect will:

- **Present your body as a living sacrifice** - This means restraining your flesh and not allowing it to express itself however it wants. Your flesh needs to be "strapped down" like a sacrifice tied to the altar.
- **Be transformed by renewing your mind** - This happens when you align your thinking with God's Word rather than the world's way of thinking.

## Why Is Controlling Your Tongue So Important?

The first part of your body that needs to be brought under control is your tongue. James tells us that the tongue is like a rudder to a ship - it directs your whole body and life. If you can control your tongue, you'll likely be able to control the rest of your body.

Many people telegraph where they're headed by what comes out of their mouth. Often, if something doesn't come out of your mouth, you won't end up doing it. Your words can reveal the direction you're going, whether positive or negative.

## Being Spiritual Is Being Practical

True spirituality isn't about strange rituals or appearing "different." It's about being practical and having self-control. God's way is the easy way, not the difficult one. Jesus said, "My yoke is easy, my burden is light." It's the way of the transgressor that is hard.

The world has convinced many people that following God is difficult and doing your own thing is easy, but the opposite is true. Living outside God's will wears you down and robs you of quality life.

## The Holy Spirit Makes Spiritual Living Possible

Romans 8:13 says, "If by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live." The key phrase is "by the Spirit." You can't control your flesh in your own strength - that's why you needed to be saved in the first place.

The Holy Spirit helps you live a supernatural life. He teaches you through God's Word and gives you the power to do what He shows you. When you open your Bible, you're inviting the Holy Spirit to come and help you understand and apply what you read.

## **Moving From Struggle to Mastery**

When you first begin to control your flesh, it's a struggle. You're constantly having to restrain yourself. But if you stay faithful and consistent, eventually your body will be trained to cooperate with your spirit.

It's like training a dog or programming a self-driving car. At first, it requires intense focus and effort, but eventually, you can put things on "autopilot" because you've trained yourself so well that godly responses become automatic.

This progression mirrors the Israelites' journey:

- Egypt represents working in the flesh
- The wilderness represents struggling with trusting God
- The Promised Land represents flowing in God's perfect will

## **Life Application**

Take some time to honestly assess where you are in your spiritual journey:

- Are you someone who hears the Word but never applies it? (The wayside person)
- Are you in the "good" level of God's will, struggling but making progress?
- Are you in the "acceptable" level, seeing significant fruit?
- Are you moving toward the "perfect" will of God, where you're bearing maximum fruit?

No matter where you are, there's hope to move forward. Here are some practical steps to take this week:

- Identify one area where your flesh (especially your tongue) needs more control
- Invite the Holy Spirit specifically to help you in that area
- Spend time in God's Word focusing on verses related to that struggle
- Practice restraint when tempted, relying on the Spirit's power
- Remember that it gets easier as you progress

Ask yourself: Am I settling for "good" when God wants to give me His best? What specific area of my life needs to move from "good" to "perfect" this week? How can I better cooperate with the Holy Spirit to make this happen?

We only get one shot at this life. Let's overcome every adversity and experience God's best by committing to do our best to have His best.

## Quotes

1. "God wants to take us so much further than where we are right now. He wants us to go further and be able to do more."
2. "What does God want you to do? It's not just about what you want—it's about what He wants."
3. "There's something powerful in knowing you're doing exactly what you were created for, right in the moment you're doing it."
4. "I don't want to just settle for good. Sure, good is better than bad, and it's better than nothing. But God doesn't want us to stop at good."
5. "Your flesh—let's just be real—is crazy. It has to be restrained, locked down, held back. You can't let your body do whatever it wants, because it wants to do all kinds of stuff."
6. "The tongue is like the rudder of a ship. James says wherever your tongue goes, it directs your whole body and your life. If you can get your tongue under control, there's a good chance you'll get the rest of your body under control too."
7. "You can shape your destiny with your mouth—by the words you speak and the words you refuse to speak. Many people telegraph where they're headed."
8. "If God can give life to the dead, how much more can He give life to what's already alive?"
9. "Being spiritual can be normal. That means you can stop being weird—you can just be normal."

10. "I've found God's way is the easy way. Being a thief—that's not easy. That's a hard life, always looking over your shoulder, living in fear. God's way is freedom."
11. "God's way is easy. Don't let anyone tell you it's hard. Jesus said, 'My yoke is easy, My burden is light.' The Bible says it's the way of the transgressor that's hard."
12. "Every cell in my body celebrates life. Hallelujah! We're talking about resurrection life—the kind that raises the dead. How much more will it give life to a body that's already alive, driving out sickness, disease, and every form of death?"
13. "You don't get in the Word to earn God's favor or try to get something from Him. You get in the Word, you come to church, so you can get out of your own way—so you're not fighting against your own heart."
14. "We need to master righteousness—knowing right from wrong."
15. "There's no excuse for a Christian to be hopeless. The Bible says God is the God of all hope."
16. "If by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. And it starts with your tongue—by the Spirit."
17. "No more cop-outs. 'You're different'—cop-out. 'It's hopeless'—cop-out. That's just avoiding the hope that's available. With God, it's never hopeless."
18. "God wants you to have His best in every area—spirit, soul, mind, and body."
19. "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. Others can do what they want, but we're serving Him."
20. "We only get one shot at life down here. Let's go after God's best. Let's overcome every adversity of the enemy."

## **Verses**

1. Romans 12:1-2
2. Romans 8:5-7

### 3. Romans 8:10-13

#### **Summary**

God has a vision for our lives that goes beyond what we can imagine, but to reach it, we must embrace His plan rather than our own desires. Romans 12:1-2 reveals three levels of God's will: good (30% fruit), acceptable (60% fruit), and perfect (100% fruit). To move toward God's perfect will, we must present our bodies as living sacrifices and be transformed by renewing our minds. Controlling our tongue is particularly important, as it directs our whole life. True spirituality is practical, and with the Holy Spirit's help, we can progress from struggle to mastery in living God's perfect will.