



Sermon Series: Strengthen Me, Part 5

Sermon Title: How to Get Where I Need to Be

Date: 6/11/2023

“What is God’s will for my life?” This question stimulates a lot of anxiety. One reason: today, we have more choices than any other generation before us. There are so many choices that we often get “stuck” because we’re so afraid of making a bad one. We wonder, once we’ve made a choice if we might have made a better one.

When it comes to God’s will, we tend to approach it like a mystery to decode or as a riddle to solve. But it’s neither a mystery nor a riddle. The pursuit of God’s will does require us to follow a process. Let’s briefly consider what the Bible says about God’s will in **Romans 12:1–2**.

Let’s further boil this down

(Big Idea) Find God’s will for tomorrow by trusting and obeying His Word today.

This raises three questions.

Question #1: What do we mean by “God’s will?”

There are three aspects to God’s will.

- **God’s Sovereign Will** - What God has willed from before time began WILL take place. The Bible describes God as the One who works all things according to the counsel of his will. (Ephesians 1:11)
- **God’s Moral Will** - God’s moral is communicated by the positive & negative commands in scripture, often summarized in the 10 Commandments.
- **God’s Individual Will** - This answers the question, “Lord, what would you have me do... today... tomorrow... next year?”

Question #2: Whose Will Do You Truly Want?

God does not expect you to figure out all the details of your life ahead of time. He just asks you to trust and obey Him today. **Proverbs 3:5–6**

Instead of treating God's will like a mystery to solve, stay centered on the "Book" (Bible) and pay attention to what He's clearly revealed. God WANTS to lead you into His will. **Psalm 143:10**

Is your attitude one that seeks His will? That's an important question. But what about the question of "Should I move?" or "Should I marry this person?" Does God care about your choices? Of course.

It's also God's will for you NOT to be anxious about it. **Matthew 6:25,27**
The key to an ongoing discovery of God's will for my life comes with a commitment to **Matthew 6:33 (ESV) Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.**

If your heart is set on honoring God, then you will not step out of God's will, no matter which path you take. Live confidently, knowing that God holds your future. **Ecclesiastes 12:13**

Question #3: What Practical Steps Can You Take?

1st... Ask yourself, "Have I put my trust in Jesus as my Savior,

2nd... Give thanks for your circumstances. God tells us that our present circumstances all fall within His sovereign will. **1 Thessalonians 5:18**

3rd... Engage in the habit of "mind renewal"? Do you systematically take in the word of God? Begin a habit of regular Bible reading through books of the Bible, one at a time. When a verse or passage catches your attention, ask yourself...

WHAT DOES IT SAY?

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

WHAT DOES IT TELL ME ABOUT GOD'S WILL FOR ME?

Make a habit of this approach to God's Word, and you will rarely be utterly confused about God's will for your life.

Romans 12:1–2 (NIV) — 1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. 2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Discussion Questions:

- **What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?**
- **Is there any area in your life where you are knowingly outside God's will?**
- **God is in control of everything that happens in creation. Does this give you peace? Why or why not?**
- **What have you learned about God's will from reading His word?**
- **Describe a time when you knew that a certain thing/action you needed to have/take was in line with God's will. What were the reasons that you were so confident?**