

2.18.2024

"Hey God I've Got A Question" What's God's Will For My Life?

"Success is knowing the will of God and being right in the center of it." Unknown

"Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is."

Ephesians 5:17 (NIV)

I. General and Specific

Observations:

- The more we do the General, the more insight we'll have about the Specifics.
- The more we do what we know, the more will be revealed about what we don't know.
- The General is more important than the Specifics...but we tend to pray and worry more about the Specifics.
- When we do the General, the Specifics tend to fall in place.
- If we don't get the General right, the Specifics don't really matter.

1. God's General Will (for everyone)

a. Get in the **FAMILY**.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him." John 3:16-17 (NIV)

"God decided in advance to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ. This is what He wanted to do, and it gave Him great pleasure." Ephesians 1:5 (NLT)

b. Get busy in the **FAMILY BUSINESS**.

[Jesus] "Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20 (NLT)

2. God's Specific Will (for my life) Things like...

- What job should I choose?
- What should I do in this situation?
- Who should I marry?

II. How Does God Show Us the Specifics?

1. **HOLY SPIRIT** (Guide)

"When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on His own but will tell you what He has heard. He will tell you about the future." John 16:13 (NLT)

2. BIBLE (Compass)

"Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path." Psalm 119:105 (NLT)

3. **FAMILY** (Map)

"Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom He gives." Colossians 3:16 (NLT)

III. Some Cautions & Encouragement

1. God's will is *not* a **FEELING**.

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?" Jeremiah 17:9 (ESV)

- 2. God's will is *not* a **FORMULA**.
 - God tells Moses to strike the rock. (Exodus 17:6)
 - ♣ God tells Moses to speak to the rock. (Numbers 20:8)
- 3. Don't be **FATALISTIC** about God's will.

"May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven." Matthew 6:10 (NLT)

4. God's will is found in **FRIENDSHIP**.

"God will surely do this for you, for He always does just what He says, and He is the one who invited you into this wonderful friendship with His Son, even Christ our Lord." 1 Corinthians 1:9 (TLB)

The closer I get to Jesus, the more I'll understand God's will for my life.

Keep the conversation going...

- 1. Tell of a time when you tried to force open a door that God had closed. What was the result?
- 2. Do you tend to jump out in faith and then ask if it's God's will; or ask for God's will and wait until you clearly have an answer?
- 3. When looking for God's will in your life, do you rely more on the Holy Spirit, the Bible, or God's Family? Which one do you need to practice relying on more?