



Beyond the Sermon

A Sermon Application Guide

Title: Seeking God's Will

This guide offers a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print it to study on your own or use it in a group to experience transformation together.

Message Theme

Seeking Divine Direction

Prayer Focus

Father, thank you for being my Source, not just my supplier. Teach me to seek Your heart before Your hand. Help me to recognize Your voice through Your Word, and to walk in step with Your Spirit. Guard my mind from distractions and distortions, and tune my heart to what is true. I want to know You more—not just what You give, but who You are. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Key Truths

When we talk about divine provision, it's essential to prioritize the Provider over the provision. No matter what steps we're taking, they're incomplete if we're not walking with God. If we're seeking a word from Him, we must first be rooted in His Word. Scripture is the Word He's said, and Jesus is the Word He is according to John 1. The more we engage with the Word, the more clearly we perceive His heart. Then, when questions arise, we're better equipped to discern His answers because we've spent time knowing Him and learning His voice.

We don't do these things to earn hearing Him, we do them to grow in sensitivity. When we spend intentional time with God and immerse ourselves in His Word, we develop the spiritual sensitivity that helps us discern His voice. When a direction comes along that doesn't align with His truth, we'll recognize it. When a direction comes that sounds like Him, we'll know to go for it. The more familiar we are with the Father's leading, the easier it becomes to spot what is counterfeit and what is real.

On the flip side, if we're constantly surrounded by things that distort or distract from the truth, it becomes harder to recognize reality. Familiarity with the false can dull our ability to perceive the genuine.

Does God speak beyond the pages of Scripture? Absolutely. But if we're not paying attention to the words He's already given, why would He entrust us with the next step? We can't bypass what He's already spoken in pursuit of something "new." The Bible is the written heart of God—our starting point for recognizing His voice, discerning His will, and walking in step with His Spirit.

Practical Application

What has God already laid on your heart that He wants you to do?

God told Noah to build the ark, and then the Lord *waited patiently* for him to finish. Chances are, God has already given you some instruction, and now it's our turn to walk it out.

Maybe it's letting go of something from a previous season of life. Some things are needed for a season, but God later asks us to set them aside. It could be to revive something that we've set down, like spending time in scripture, going back to school, or mending a broken relationship where we've held onto unforgiveness.

Take a moment to show you what He wants you to do, but know that it will be from a place of who He has made you to be. He's equipped you to walk in it, so trust Him and go for it. Our Father doesn't do abandonment.

Reference Verses

- Exodus 33:15, 3:10-13
- Jeremiah 29:11
- Psalms 119:105, 37:23
- Matthew 6:14-15
- 2 Corinthians 6:14-15
- Hebrews 4:12
- Zachariah 1:5
- John 14:26
- Acts 9:10-15
- Ephesians 5:17

Declarations:

- I prioritize the Provider over the provision.
- I am rooted in Scripture and attuned to the voice of God.
- I reject counterfeit direction and cling to divine clarity.
- I pursue the written heart of God before asking for the next step.
- I am not led by noise—I am led by the Word.

What's Next?

Many of us want God's direction for our lives because we want to get it right. We long for clarity, peace, and confidence that we are following God's will. The good news is that God does not hide His guidance from those who sincerely seek Him. Divine direction is not about guessing or waiting for a dramatic sign—it is about learning to recognize God's voice and faithfully responding to it. This message shows us that God primarily leads through His Word and invites us to walk with Him one step at a time.

Step 1: Anchor Yourself in God's Word Before Seeking Direction.

If I want divine direction, the first place I must go is not my feelings, circumstances, or opinions of others—but God's Word. Scripture is the primary way God speaks, and it forms the foundation for recognizing His voice. As I consistently spend time reading and meditating on the Bible, I begin to align my thinking with God's truth. Many decisions become clearer simply because God has already spoken about them in His Word. Before asking God for the next step, I must commit to knowing and obeying what He has already revealed.

Step 2: Obey What God Has Already Shown You.

God often withholds further direction when we ignore what He has already asked us to do. Before seeking clarity about the future, I should honestly examine whether there is a step of obedience I've been delaying—an unhealthy relationship, a forgiveness issue, a call to generosity, or a decision I know honors God but feels uncomfortable. Divine direction flows through obedience, not arguments or excuses. When I choose to act on what I already know to be true, I position myself to clearly hear God's guidance for what comes next.

Step 3: Trust God With the Next Step, Not the Entire Plan.

God typically leads step by step, not all at once. Instead of demanding the full picture, I am called to trust Him with today's obedience. As I take small, faithful steps—guided by Scripture, prayer, and the Holy Spirit—God directs my path over time. The more I walk closely with Him, the easier it becomes to recognize His voice and discern what is authentic versus counterfeit. Living in divine direction means trusting that God is guiding me even when the destination isn't fully visible.

Divine direction is not about waiting for a perfect sign—it is about daily faithfulness. When I commit to God's Word, obey what He has already revealed, and take the next step in trust, I can walk with confidence knowing God is leading me. He is patient, present, and faithful to guide those who seek Him wholeheartedly. The question is not whether God is speaking, but whether I am willing to listen—and then respond.