Strengthen the Core in '24 Part II

"In this manner, therefore, pray:
Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done
On earth as it is in heaven."
Matthew 6:9-10 NKJV

"Whether we are happy or unhappy at any given time is not important. That we be in the will of God is all that matters."

A.W. Tozer

The devil hates the will of God. Above all, he attacks it and uses all his lies to defeat it in the life of every human being.

I had a powerful experience with God my freshman year of college. My first quarter of school I was miserable with homesickness.

I told God that I was going to follow His will for my life even though it meant that I would never life near my family and the farm, but He was going to have to take my homesickness away.

He did.

Immediately.

1. God's will is at the Core of Jesus' relationship with His Father.

"For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me."

John 6:38 NKJV

"Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work."

John 4:34 NKJV

"He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."" Matthew 26:39 NKJV

2. Entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven requires that we do the will of God.

""Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven."

Matthew 7:21 NKJV

3. Suffering leadsus to surrender to God's will.

"Since Jesus went through everything you're going through and more, learn to think like him. Think of your sufferings as a weaning from that old sinful habit of always expecting to get your own way.

Then you'll be able to live out your days free to pursue what God wants instead of being tyrannized by what you want."

1 Peter 4:1-2 MSG

4. Were warned not to trade God's will for what want.

"Don't love the world's ways. Don't love the world's goods. Love of the world squeezes out love for the Father. Practically everything that goes on in the world—wanting your own way, wanting everything for yourself, wanting to appear important—has nothing to do with the Father. It just isolates you from him. The world and all its wanting, wanting, wanting is on the way out—but whoever does what God wants is set for eternity."

1 John 2:15-17 MSG

- 5. How can we know the will of God?
- -Hear and believe the Word of God preached by those He anoints and sends.
- -Carefully study God's word every day, expecting the Holy Spirit to reveal God's will for your life.
- -Pray and ask God to make His will clear. Better to delay and pray, than to leap and then look.
- -Follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit and submit to His leadership.
- You don't recognize the voices of people you don't know, so start talking to Holy Spirit!
- -Seek and receive godly counsel.
- That means recognized leaders and mature believers who give evidence of being in God's will.
- -Clean up any areas where you know you're not in God's will, especially in the little areas that you excuse and down-play.
- -Ask God to help you make His will your most important and valuable possession.