

5-Day Devotional: Seeking and Doing God's Will

Day 1: Obedience Before Answers

Reading: Acts 1:12-14; Matthew 22:37-40

Devotional: The disciples' first response after Jesus' ascension wasn't to create their own plan—it was to obey what Jesus had already told them. They returned to Jerusalem and waited. How often do we seek specific direction from God while ignoring His clear commands already given? Before asking "What's God's will for my life?" we must answer "Am I loving God with everything I am and loving my neighbor as myself?" These aren't suggestions—they're foundational commands. God doesn't reveal the next step when we're unwilling to take the first one. Today, examine your life honestly. Are you obeying what you already know? Obedience to God's revealed will positions us to receive His specific guidance.

Day 2: The Power of United Prayer

Reading: Acts 1:14; Luke 11:1-13

Devotional: The early church devoted themselves to prayer—continually, together, united. Prayer wasn't an afterthought or religious ritual; it was their lifeline. The only thing the disciples asked Jesus to teach them was how to pray. Why? Because prayer connects us to God's power and aligns our hearts with His purposes. The enemy fights hardest against our prayer life because he knows what happens when God's people pray. These 120 believers who devoted themselves to prayer would soon turn the world upside down. That's no coincidence. How's your prayer life today? Are you devoted or distracted? Start small but start somewhere. Pray with your spouse, your children, your small group. Prayer unites us with God and with each other.

Day 3: Scripture: Our Guide to God's Will

Reading: Acts 1:15-20; Psalm 119:105-112

Devotional: Peter didn't make decisions based on feelings or popular opinion. While devoted to prayer, he searched the Scriptures to understand what God wanted them to do next. God will never tell you something that contradicts what He's already revealed in His Word. The Bible isn't outdated—it's God-breathed, living, and active. We live in a culture where everyone claims "God told me" to justify personal preferences, but true guidance always aligns with Scripture. Before making that decision, open this Book. Let God speak through His eternal Word rather than your temporary feelings. The psalmist declared God's Word is "a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." You can't walk in God's will while ignoring God's Word.

Day 4: Praying Again Before Deciding

Reading: Acts 1:21-24; Proverbs 3:5-6

Devotional: Notice the pattern: the disciples prayed, searched Scripture, then prayed again before making their decision. They didn't rush. They didn't assume their first impression was correct. They returned to prayer, acknowledging that even with Scripture's guidance, they needed God's wisdom for application. How different from our approach! We make life-altering decisions without a single prayer, trusting our own understanding. The disciples knew better. After identifying two qualified candidates, they prayed: "Lord, You know everyone's heart. Show us which one You have chosen." They recognized their limitations and God's omniscience. Today, before that decision you're facing, pause. Pray again. Trust God's wisdom over your own reasoning. He promises to direct your paths when you acknowledge Him.

Day 5: Dependent Faith Takes Action

Reading: Acts 1:24-26; Proverbs 16:33

Devotional: After obeying, praying, searching Scripture, and praying again, the disciples still had to act. But their action demonstrated complete dependence on God—they cast lots, surrendering the outcome entirely to Him. They didn't trust their preferences or manipulate results. This wasn't irresponsible decision-making; it was radical trust after diligent seeking. Faith without action is dead, but action without dependence is presumption. God's will requires both our participation and our surrender. Are you completely dependent on God, or are you trying to control outcomes while claiming to trust Him? If God said "yes" to everything you prayed last week, how life-changing would it be? Our prayers reveal our dependence. Today, take that step of faith you've been avoiding, but take it in total dependence on the Lord.