

October 18th – The Will of God

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” (1 Thess. 5:16-18)

In Christian circles, very few subjects have received more attention than the will of God. Books have been written on how to discern it. Sermons have been preached encouraging us to discover it. Prayers have been prayed asking God to reveal it. It is true that parts of God’s will are different for each of us because we’re all unique. I’ve found that God often reveals His specific plans for my life when I focus on doing the parts of His will that He’s already revealed.

That brings us to today’s verses. If you want to know the revealed will of God for your life, here it is. First, be a person of joy at all times. Living a joy-filled life is a decision we must make every day because life is not always filled with joyful moments. Someone once told me that joy is not the same as happiness because happiness depends on what “happens.” Joy is a decision to bless the Lord and walk in victory regardless of what happens.

Second, God expects us to “pray without ceasing.” That doesn’t mean that we’re to walk around with our heads bowed and eyes closed all day long. It does mean that we have a lifestyle of prayer – praying in the morning, noon, afternoon, evening, and night. Prayer is our lifeline! Finally, God instructs us to “give thanks in everything.” Those last two words make this one hard. It’s easy to give thanks when all is well, but thanking God in the adversity is a different matter. Let’s covenant to live each day rejoicing, praying, and thanking God – after all, it is His will for your life!