



**THIS IS THE WAY**

**WALK IN IT**



# Will of God

- God's plan and purpose for His creation and for each individual



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- God's plan and purpose for His creation and for each individual
- "God created me for a purpose. I want to know what it is and do it."

**Psalm 135:6 (NLT)** — “The LORD does whatever pleases him throughout all heaven and earth, and on the seas and in their depths.”

GOD

is

SOVEREIGN.

**Exodus 34:6–7 (NLT)** — “The LORD passed in front of Moses, calling out, ‘Yahweh! The LORD! **The God of compassion and mercy!** I am **slow to anger** and **filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.** **7** I lavish unfailing love to a thousand generations. I forgive iniquity, rebellion, and sin. But I do not excuse the guilty. I lay the sins of the parents upon their children and grandchildren; the entire family is affected— even children in the third and fourth generations.’”

**1 John 4:8 (NLT)** — “But anyone who does not love does not know God, for **God is love.**”

**Malachi 3:6 (NLT)** — “**I am the LORD, and I do not change.** That is why you descendants of Jacob are not already destroyed.”

**Hebrews 13:8 (NLT)** — “**Jesus Christ is the same** yesterday, today, and forever.”

**Psalm 18:30 (NLT) — “God’s way is perfect.** All the LORD’s promises prove true. He is a shield for all who look to him for protection”

**Numbers 23:19 (NLT) — “God is not a man, so he does not lie.** He is not human, so he does not change his mind. Has he ever spoken and failed to act? Has he ever promised and not carried it through?”



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**Psalm 33:11 (ESV)** — “The counsel of the LORD stands forever, **the plans of his heart to all generations.**”

ONE

God has a  
plan for  
you.

**Colossians 4:12 (NLT)** — “Epaphras, a member of your own fellowship and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends you his greetings. He always prays earnestly for you, asking God to make you strong and perfect, fully confident that you are **following the whole will of God.**”

**Psalms 40:8 (NLT)** — “**I take joy in doing your will,** my God, for your instructions are written on my heart.”

**Romans 12:2 (NLT)** — “Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, **which is good and pleasing and perfect.**”

**James 1:2–4 (NLT)** — “Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. **3** For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. **4** So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.”

**1 Peter 3:17 (NLT)** — “Remember, it is better to suffer for doing good, if that is what God wants, than to suffer for doing wrong!”

**Psalm 143:10 (NLT)** — **“Teach me to do your will,** for you are my God. May your gracious Spirit lead me forward on a firm footing.”

**Ephesians 5:17 (NKJV)** — “Therefore do not be unwise, but **understand what the will of the Lord is.**”

**Colossians 1:9 (NLT)** — “So we have not stopped praying for you since we first heard about you. **We ask God to give you complete knowledge of his will** and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding.”

**Matthew 12:50 (NLT)** — “Anyone who does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother!”

**1 John 2:17 (AMP)** — “And the world passes away and disappears, and with it the forbidden cravings (the passionate desires, the lust) of it; but **he who does the will of God and carries out His purposes in his life abides (remains) forever.**”





# The Will of God

1. God **WANTS** you to know it.
2. You **CAN** know it.
3. God **SPEAKS** to you in ways you will know it is Him.



**1. Walk in Obedience to the Light You Have**



## **2. Be in Fellowship with Other Believers**

“When they arrived, they went to the upstairs room of the house where they were staying. Here are the names of those who were present: Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon (the zealot), and Judas (son of James). **14 They all met together and were constantly united in prayer,** along with Mary the mother of Jesus, several other women, and the

**Acts 1:13-15 (NLT)**

brothers of Jesus. **15** During this time, when about **120 believers were together in one place**, Peter stood up and addressed them."

**Acts 1:13-15 (NLT)**



Being  
Committed in  
Fellowship is  
**VITAL** to the  
Spiritual Life  
of Every  
Believer



### **3. Pray to Know God and His Will**

**Acts 1:14 (NLT)** — “They all met together and were **constantly united in prayer**, along with Mary the mother of Jesus, several other women, and the brothers of Jesus.”

**Acts 1:24 (NLT)** — “Then **they all prayed**, ‘O Lord, you know every heart. Show us which of these men you have chosen.’”





# Prayer is the Place Where We:

- **Daily surrender our will, plans and desires to follow His**



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- **Confess our sins and receive His cleansing**



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- **Develop intimacy with the Father**



# Prayer is the Place Where We:

- Daily surrender our will, plans and desires to follow His
- Confess our sins and receive His cleansing
- Develop intimacy with the Father
- **Sit quietly, listen and meditate on Him**

“Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. **8** For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. **9** “You parents — if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? **10** Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! **11** So if

**Matthew 7:7-11 (NLT)**

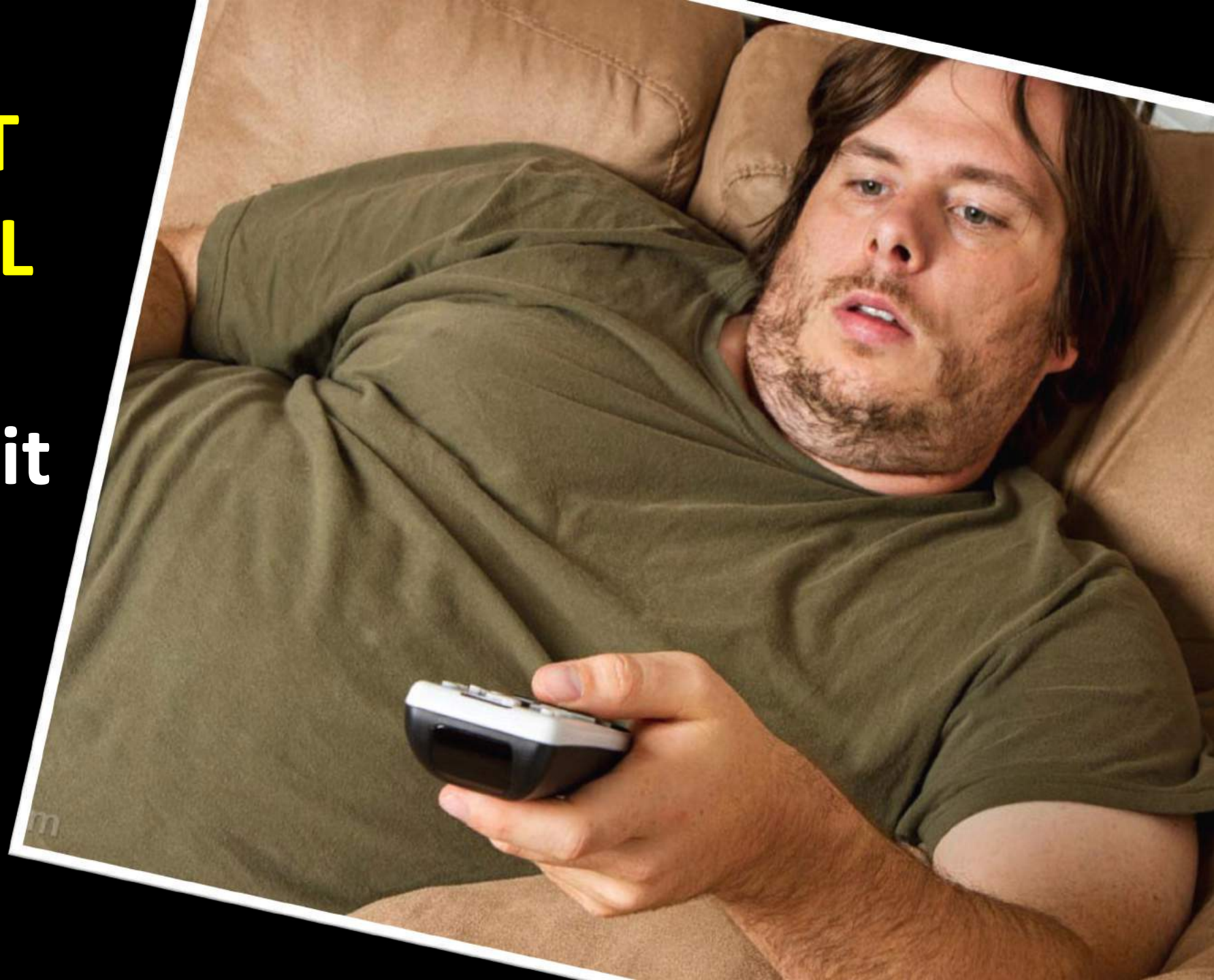
you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him.”

**Matthew 7:7-11 (NLT)**



If you **ASK** you  
can count on  
the fact that  
He will  
**REVEAL** it  
to you.

If you **DON'T**  
**ASK** you **WILL**  
**NOT** know,  
find, or have it  
opened for  
you.





**Matthew 10:37 (NLT)** — “If you love your father or mother more than you love me, you are not worthy of being mine; or if you love your son or daughter more than me, you are not worthy of being mine.”



**So, you think  
you've  
met the man  
of your  
dreams?**

**James 4:1–3 (NLT)** — “What is causing the quarrels and fights among you? Don’t they come from **the evil desires at war within you**? **2** You want what you don’t have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous of what others have, but you can’t get it, so you fight and wage war to take it away from them. Yet you don’t have what you want because you don’t ask God for it. **3** And even when you ask, **you don’t get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure.**”



# Not Just About ASKING:

- Ask, “Lord, is this **YOUR** will?”
- Make sure your **MOTIVES** are right
- Be **OPEN** to hear whatever He has to say to you



**4. Search God's Word to Know His Will**

“During this time, when about 120 believers were together in one place, Peter stood up and addressed them. **16** ‘Brothers,’ he said, ‘**the Scriptures had to be fulfilled** concerning Judas, who guided those who arrested Jesus. **This was predicted long ago** by the Holy Spirit, speaking through King David. **17** Judas was one of us and shared in the ministry with us.’ **18** (Judas had bought a field with the money he received for his

**Acts 1:15-20 (NLT)**

treachery. Falling headfirst there, his body split open, spilling out all his intestines. **19** The news of his death spread to all the people of Jerusalem, and they gave the place the Aramaic name Akeldama, which means “Field of Blood.”) **20** Peter continued, “**This was written in the book of Psalms**, where it says, ‘Let his home become desolate, with no one living in it.’ It also says, ‘Let someone else take his position.’”

**Acts 1:15-20 (NLT)**

Psalm 119:6 (NLT) — “Then I will not be ashamed **when I compare my life with your commands.**”

Psalm 119:7 (NLT) — “**As I learn your righteous regulations,** I will thank you by living as I should!”

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



**If It Doesn't Line Up with  
God's Word, It's NOT  
God's Will!**



**Be Attentive to the RHEMA WORD**





# Rhema

- (Greek) = “utterance”
- When God takes His **LOGOS** (“written Word”) and makes it **RHEMA** to speak to your situation

**Proverbs 18:22 (NKJV)** — “He who finds a wife finds a good thing, And obtains favor from the LORD.”



**5. Trust God to Guide You**

**Acts 1:23–26 (NKJV)** — “And they proposed two: Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. **24** And they prayed and said, ‘You, O Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which of these two You have chosen **25** to take part in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.’” **26** And they cast their lots, and the lot fell on Matthias. And he was numbered with the eleven apostles.”

**Psalm 37:3–5 (NLT)** — “**Trust** in the LORD and do good. Then you will live safely in the land and prosper. **4** Take **delight** in the LORD, and he will give you your heart’s desires. **5** **Commit** everything you do to the LORD. Trust him, and he will help you.”

**Psalm 37:23 (NLT)** — “The LORD directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives.”

**Proverbs 3:5–6 (NLT)** — “**Trust** in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. **6** **Seek** his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.”



INTIMACY

INTO ME

SEE

*Intimacy  
with God*

**Psalm 32:8–9 (NKJV)** — “I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; **I will guide you with My eye.** **9** Do not be like the horse or like the mule, Which have no understanding, Which must be harnessed with bit and bridle, Else they will not come near you.”



## **6. Fast to Know God's Will**

“Then I proclaimed a fast there at the river of Ahava, that we might humble ourselves before our God, to seek from Him the right way for us and our little ones and all our possessions. **22** For I was ashamed to request of the king an escort of soldiers and horsemen to help us against the enemy on the road, because we had spoken to the king, saying, ‘The hand of our God is upon all those for good who seek Him, but His power

**Ezra 8:21-23 (NLT)**

and His wrath are against all those who forsake Him.’  
**23** So **we fasted and entreated our God for this**, and  
He answered our prayer.”

**Ezra 8:21-23 (NKJV)**

**Acts 10:30–32 (NKJV)** — “So Cornelius said, ‘Four days ago **I was fasting** until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing, **31** and said, ‘Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your alms are remembered in the sight of God. **32** Send therefore to Joppa and call Simon here, whose surname is Peter. He is lodging in the house of Simon, a tanner, by the sea. When he comes, he will speak to you.’”

# fasting

- Separating yourself unto the Lord
- Denying fleshly desires
- Quieting all other voices
- **GOAL** = to hear God's voice





**7. Seek Counsel from Spiritually Mature Believers**



**Proverbs 12:15 (NKJV)** — The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, But he who heeds counsel is wise.”

**Proverbs 11:14 (NKJV)** — “Where there is no counsel, the people fall; But in the multitude of counselors there is safety.”

**Proverbs 19:20–21 (ESV)** — “Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future. **21 Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand.**”

**James 3:17 (NLT)** — “But the **wisdom from above** is first of all **pure**. It is also **peace loving, gentle** at all times, and **willing to yield** to others. It is **full of mercy** and the **fruit of good deeds**. It **shows no favoritism** and is **always sincere.**”



**Things to Remember in Discerning God's Will**



# Things to Remember

1. Be Guided by **PEACE** in Your Heart

**Colossians 3:15 (NLT)** — “And **let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts.** For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.”

**John 14:27 (NLT)** — “I am leaving you with a gift—**peace of mind and heart.** And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid.”



# Things to Remember

1. Be Guided by **PEACE** in Your Heart
2. If Married, Walk in **UNITY**

**Matthew 12:25 (NLT)** — “Jesus knew their thoughts and replied, ‘Any kingdom divided by civil war is doomed. A town or **family** splintered by feuding will fall apart.’”



# Things to Remember

1. Be Guided by **PEACE** in Your Heart
2. If Married, Walk in **UNITY**
3. God Still Speaks in **DREAMS** and **VISIONS**



**Acts 2:17 (NLT)** — “In the last days,’ God says, ‘I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see **visions**, and your old men will dream **dreams.**”



# Things to Remember

1. Be Guided by **PEACE** in Your Heart
2. If Married, Walk in **UNITY**
3. God Still Speaks in **DREAMS** and **VISIONS**
4. God Speaks in **CIRCUMSTANCES**

**Revelation 3:8 (NLT)** — “I know all the things you do, and **I have opened a door for you that no one can close**. You have little strength, yet you obeyed my word and did not deny me.”



**Questions to Ask Yourself**



# Ask Yourself:

**1. What Would JESUS Do?**



# Ask Yourself:

1. What would JESUS do?
- 2. Is this going to draw me closer to God and His people?**



# Ask Yourself:

1. What would JESUS do?
2. Is this going to draw me closer to God and His people?
- 3. What effect will my choice have?**



## Ask Yourself:

1. What would JESUS do?
2. Is this going to draw me closer to God and His people?
3. What effect will my choice have?
4. **What choice would glorify Jesus the most?**





# Ask Yourself:

**5. Does God's Word say anything about my situation?**



## Ask Yourself:

5. Does God's Word say anything about my situation?
6. **Does what I am about to do build others up or tear them down?**

The **KEY** for  
us is...



...complete  
**SUBMISSION** to Him



# Follow These Principles:

1. **Walk in Obedience to the Light**



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- 2. Be in Fellowship with Believers**



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- 4. God's Word is Our Guide**



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- 5. Trust God to Guide You**





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- 6. Fast to Know God's Will**



**Follow These Principles:**

**7. Seek Godly Counsel**



# Follow These Principles:

7. Seek Godly Counsel

**8. God Still Speaks in Dreams and Visions**



# Follow These Principles:

7. Seek Godly Counsel
8. God Still Speaks in Dreams and Visions
- 9. God Does Speak through Circumstances**



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