

Discern What is Best

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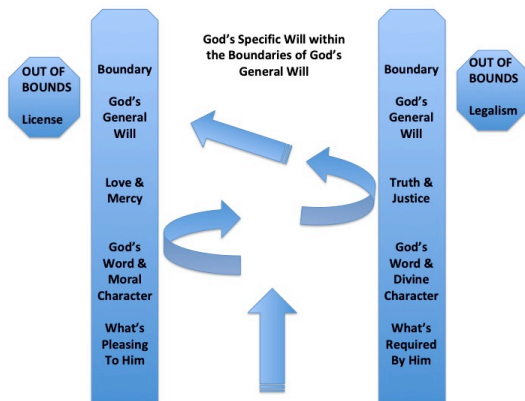
Discerning God’s present specific will is found in the context of God’s general will. Discernment is developed as we grow our relationship with the Lord and obediently move forward in faith.

And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ. Philippians 1:9-10

Paul came to know who called him and what he was to be and to do.
Acts 26:12-19

Let God’s NO’s, lead us to God’s YES’S.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” Proverbs 3:5-6



1. Put God First. (Phil 1:20-21; 3:8)
2. Set Your Mind on Christ (Phil. 4:8-9)
3. Go! Start Moving Forward. (Phil. 3:13-14)

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ²Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:1-2

Connect

- Have you ever looked at fortune-telling cards, horoscopes, Ouija boards, or something similar? Did you get anything good out of it?

Word and Reflection

Discerning our life’s direction or deciding what’s best can be daunting. Who we get advice from or what we turn to can result in great fulfillment or disappointment. God’s voice is a voice that we can trust. He will never fail us. To discern His will, put God first, set your mind on Christ and take steps forward.

Philippians 1:9-10; 4:8-9; Acts 26:12-19; Proverbs 3:5-6; Romans 12:1-2

- Which part of the message made an impact, caught your attention or challenged you?
- Read and discuss the scriptures taught in this week’s message. What do they reveal to you about God?
- What do you think about the statement, “Let God’s no’s, lead us to God’s yes’s.” What’s your initial response when you are denied something you’ve wanted for so long? Do you tend to trust or worry? Why?
- What aspect of God’s nature found in Philippians 4:8-9 do you need to focus more attention to?
- Which boundary presented on Sunday challenges you more to stand in bounds? His truth and justice or His love and mercy?

Action

- What is one thing you can do this week to put this message into practice?
- Spend some time thanking God in worship this week.

Prayer

- Lord, help me to grow in my knowledge of and love for you. Allow me to discern and know your will for my life.
- Pray for your group and for those whom you’re reaching out to.