

5-Day Devotional: Seeking God's Will Through Prayer and Fasting

Day 1: The Power of Scripture in Understanding God's Will

Reading: Daniel 9:1-3; 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Devotional: Daniel discovered God's will by diligently studying Scripture. He didn't just read casually—he searched the prophetic words of Jeremiah and immediately responded in prayer. Like Daniel, we must approach God's Word expecting Him to speak. All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, correction, and training in righteousness. When you read the Bible, you're not just gathering information; you're encountering the living God who wants to reveal His specific plans for your life.

Reflection: When was the last time you truly studied Scripture, asking God to illuminate His will for you?

Application: This week, choose one passage to study deeply. Read it multiple times, pray over it, and ask God to show you how it applies to your current circumstances.

Day 2: Praying in Humility and Alignment with God's Will

Reading: Matthew 6:5-18; John 14:13-14

Devotional: Jesus teaches us that effective prayer isn't about public performance or selfish requests—it's about intimate communion with the Father. When we pray "in Jesus' name," we're not using a magic formula; we're aligning our requests with God's character and purposes. Daniel prayed with such conviction that his requests honored God's glory above personal comfort. Are your prayers driven by what would bring you satisfaction or what would bring God glory?

Reflection: Examine your recent prayers. Are they centered on God's will or your own desires?

Application: Before praying today, ask yourself: "Will this request bring glory to God?" Adjust your prayers accordingly, seeking His kingdom first.

Day 3: Fasting as Spiritual Breakthrough

Reading: Matthew 4:1-4; Isaiah 58:6-9

Devotional: Fasting isn't about manipulating God or earning His favor—it's about emptying ourselves to hear Him more clearly. Jesus fasted. Moses fasted. Daniel fasted. They understood that sometimes we need to sacrifice the desires of our flesh to become empty vessels for God's purposes. Fasting breaks through spiritual barriers when we've been unable to hear God's voice. It's not a hunger strike or diet plan; it's a holy discipline that says, "God, I need to see You more than I need anything else."

Reflection: What worldly distractions or fleshly desires are drowning out God's voice in your life?

Application: Consider a short fast (even one meal) this week, dedicating that time to prayer and seeking God's direction for a specific situation.

Day 4: Clean Hands and Pure Hearts

Reading: Psalm 66:18; 1 John 1:9; Psalm 24:3-4

Devotional: David asks, "Who may ascend the hill of the Lord?" The answer: those with clean hands and pure hearts. If we regard iniquity in our hearts, God will not hear our prayers. This isn't about losing salvation—it's about losing intimacy. Unconfessed sin creates static in our communication with God. But here's the beautiful promise: IF we confess our sins, He IS faithful and just to forgive and cleanse us. Confession isn't penance; it's the pathway back to communion with our Father.

Reflection: Is there unconfessed sin creating distance between you and God?

Application: Take time today for honest confession. Name specific sins before God, receive His promised forgiveness, and walk in the freedom of being cleansed.

Day 5: Hungering and Thirsting for Righteousness

Reading: Matthew 5:6; Deuteronomy 8:3; Psalm 119:105

Devotional: "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled." This isn't about physical hunger—it's about a deep, driving passion for God's righteousness to prevail in your life and in the world around you. Man cannot live on bread alone, but by every

word that proceeds from God's mouth. When you develop an insatiable appetite for God's Word, prayer, and His presence, you position yourself to be filled with everything you truly need. This hunger cannot be satisfied by anything man-made or fleshly.

Reflection: How intense is your desire for God's righteousness? Does it drive your daily decisions?

Application: Commit to abandoning one comfort or distraction this week to create more space for seeking God. Replace scrolling time with Scripture reading, entertainment with prayer, or complaints with worship.

Closing Challenge: God's will isn't hidden from those who genuinely seek it. Through diligent study of Scripture, humble and persistent prayer, intentional fasting, confession of sin, and hungering for righteousness, you position yourself to hear clearly from Heaven. Remember: God's plan A is YOU. He saved you not just to keep you from hell, but to send you to work. As you walk out of your prayer time this week, be the church—pray, know God's Word, and make an impact for His glory.