

KNOWING/DISCERNING THE WILL OF GOD

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Scriptures: Romans 12:2, Eph. 5:17-18, Jer. 29:11

Outline

(Day#1)

- Will of God
- Conditions
- Sources
- Potential Misunderstandings

Process (Day#2)

- Internal
- External

Conclusion

Introduction:

The average adult makes about 33,000-35,000 decisions a day.

What is God's will?

God's will is His conscious deciding or choosing to do something.

God's will;

1. Is good, pleasing & perfect (Rom. 12:2)
2. Reflects His deep love for us (Jer. 29:11)

Conditions for Knowing God's Will

The first step is to be willing to obey his will. We cannot ask God to reveal His will and then decide if we will obey.

1. We must commit to obeying God's will as He reveals it
(Roms. 12:1)
2. We must turn from the world's ways and allow God to transform us (Romans 12:2).

Conditions for Knowing God's Will

Renewing includes:

- a. Confession (1 John 1:9)
- b. Being filled with the Spirit (Eph. 5:18)
- c. Reliance on his word (Col 3:16)

Conditions for Knowing God's Will

3. We must recognize that God's will for us is not only for our individual benefit. It is always found in the context of serving the body of Christ. Romans 12:3-8.

Sources for knowing or Discerning God's will

a.The Bible: Seeking His revealed will (Psalm 119:104; 2 Timothy 3:16,17, **Ps. 40:7-8**).

b.Prayer: Seeking His wisdom (James 1:5,6; Philippians 4:6,7)

c.The Holy Spirit: Submitting to His direction (Philippians 2:13; Acts 16:6-8).

Sources for knowing or Discerning God's will

d. Spirit-filled Christians: Weighing their counsel
(Proverbs 19:20; 27:17).

e. Providential circumstances: Seeing God at
work. (Gen 50:19,20)

f. Our desires: Evaluated under His Lordship (Ps.
145:19).

Potential Misunderstandings in Determining God's Will.

- a. The open door policy: Taking the first option to present itself.
- b. The closed door policy: Assuming that a “closed door” means the option is not God's will.
- c. Looking for a dramatic experience to indicate God's will.