

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

Discerning the Will of God

Passage: Romans 12:2

Introduction: John said discovering God's will is less about finding the hidden blueprint of your life and more about living in the revealed will of God. John noted that discerning God's will starts with conversion. Once we are born again in Christ, we have the ability to align our desires and will with God's. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can grow in our knowledge and application of the principles of God's Word to our lives.

Additional passages: Psalm 138:8; Proverbs 1:7, 9:10; Ezekial 36:26-27; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Titus 3:5; Hebrews 5:14.

Questions:

1. According to Proverbs 1:7 and 9:10, what is the beginning of possessing wisdom? According to Colossians 2:2-3, who is the source of wisdom?
2. John said conversion has to precede mind transformation, which in turn precedes wisdom and godly decision making. Why does conversion have to precede the practice of wisdom? What happens to our hearts in conversion (Ezekial 36:26-27; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Titus 3:5)?
3. Growing in wisdom is a process. What does Psalm 32:8-11 teach about what God does in that process? What does it teach about what we do?
4. What does Hebrews 5:14 teach about how we can grow in biblical discernment?
5. John laid out the following pattern for discerning God's will:
 - a. Get a true fear of God in your heart (Prov 1:7).
 - b. Study the Word more and interests and concerns of the world less (Ps 119:15-16).
 - c. Start with what God has clearly said: obey biblical commands (Ecclesiastes 12:13).
 - d. Apply biblical principles to the situation.
 - e. Seek godly counsel.
 - f. Pray for wisdom (James 1:5)
 - g. Make the decision.
 - h. Trust in God's providence (Prov 3:5-6).
6. Do you live with fear or low-grade regret that you have missed the will of God? What encouragement does Psalm 138:8 offer for us?