

WHAT IS GOD'S WILL FOR MY LIFE?

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Have you ever asked yourself, “What is God’s will for my life?” or “Is this the career that God wants me to pursue?” Sometimes it might seem to you that God’s will is hidden behind a locked door. But is this true? Is God keeping His plans from you as some hidden secret? Or will He allow you to follow Him, leading you step-by-step? The key to understanding God’s will is understanding His heart for you and developing a close relationship with Him (Proverbs 3:5,6).

Before asking the question, “What is God’s will for my life?” there are some important things you should know about God and His will for you:



**God does
want you to
know His will!
(Ephesians
5:17; Psalms
32:8 ESV)**



**God's will is
good for
you!
(Jeremiah
29:11-13
ESV)**



**God provides
benefits for
following His
will! (1 John
2:16,17; Mark
3:35)**

Therefore, the Christian should want God's will above everything else. This was the attitude of Jesus, The Son of God (John 6:38; Mathew 38-39, 42; Matthew 6:9,10; John 5:30 ESV), and should be your attitude as well (Psalms 40:8).

God's Revealed Will

John McArthur says this about knowing God's will: "Some people think that God's will is some sort of transcendental experience. Some people are waiting for a voice to tell them what to do in a situation . . . God now speaks to us through His Word. The cannon of scripture is closed."

The Bible states clearly what God's will is. This is called His **"Revealed Will"** for our lives.

So what does
the Bible
teach about
God's
"Revealed
Will" ?



***It is God's will that you become saved!**



***It is God's will that you become Spirit-filled!**

***It is God's will that you live a holy, sanctified life!**

***It is God's will that you give thanks in everything!**

***It is God's will that you abstain from sexual sins!**

*** It is God's will that you suffer for doing right!**

II Timothy 2:3,4; II Peter 3:9

***Ephesians 5:18**

***I Thessalonians 4:3;
Romans 12:1,2**

***I Thessalonians 5:18**

***I Corinthians 6:18;
I Thessalonians 4:3**

***I Peter 3:17; II Timothy 3:12**

Again, John McArthur states: “If you are doing these things, God’s will is to just go do what you want! (Ps. 37:4) Our “want” will be controlled by God. You don’t wait for voices. He will cause you to desire what He wants.

GOD'S WILL IN DECISION-MAKING

Decision-making can be a daunting task for anyone, but Christians have the unique advantage of making decisions that are informed by God's Word. To do so, there are at least three factors to consider:



First, you must obey the moral will of God as it is revealed in Scripture. If Scripture prohibits the action in question, your decision is easy: *don't do it.*

Likewise, if one of the options in your choice causes you to neglect something God specifically commands you to do, you are required to make the choice that will allow you to fulfill your biblical obligation.

Second, good decision-making requires that you exercise biblical wisdom (James 1:5). Such wisdom comes from a *diligent study of God's Word*, coupled with God's generous provision.

To make wise decisions, you need to gather necessary information, consider all the options carefully, seek godly counsel, and then choose the option that is most sensible (Proverbs 2:1- 11).

Last, you need to consider your own desire.

If the Bible is silent about your decision, and if one choice is not clearly wiser than the other, then do what you want. You have the freedom to do so, and God sovereignly works out His plan through your desires (Psalm 37:4; Philippians 2:13).

The above process presupposes that you are submitted to Christ and filled with the Spirit. Otherwise you won't be able to make biblical decisions, as sin blinds your ability to understand and apply God's Word to your life. However, if you do have a vital relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ and are walking in the Spirit -- as opposed to the flesh -- you are free to make decisions so long as they don't violate God's revealed (moral) will. You shouldn't be concerned that your decisions will somehow derail God's sovereign will for your life, because He routinely works through your decisions to accomplish what He purposes.

“The will of God is not like a magic package let down from heaven like a string. The will of God is far more like a scroll that unrolls everyday . . . The will of God is something to be discerned and to be lived out every day of our lives. It is not something to be grasped as a package once for all. Our call, therefore, is basically not to follow a plan or blueprint, or to go to a place or take up a work, but rather to follow the Lord Jesus Christ.”

-Paul Little, Affirming the Will of God