

# What is God's Will for my Life?

## Matthew 28:18-20

*"Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations..." - Matt. 28:18-19*

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### **Main Point: The Great Commission is God's will for our lives**

**Introduction:** Use the following questions to introduce the topic of discussion -

Can you recall a time when you gave up something you wanted to do in favor of your spouse or children? On the other hand, when have you bent their will to match up with yours?

Who is someone who discipled you in your faith? How has it made a difference in your life?

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Typically, we have a particular direction we want to go in life. Although we say we want to know God's will for our lives, what many of us really mean is that we want God to go along with what we want to do. As followers of Christ we must be honest in our search for God's will. What is it that God really desires for your life? What does He want you to do? In our passage, known as The Great Commission, Jesus lays out His will for His followers and clearly sharing what He desires from our lives.

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### **Read Matthew 28:18-20. God's will for our lives includes:**

#### 1) **HE WANTS YOU TO BE CONFIDENT.** (v.18)

Describe a time when someone come alongside you and gave you confidence in life. How does knowing that Jesus has "all authority" give you confidence in your faith walk?

Discuss how each of these Biblical people had confidence in the Lord: Elijah (**1 Kings 18:30-38**); Hezekiah (**Isaiah 37:14-20; 36-38**); Paul (**Philippians 1:14; 2 Cor. 11:10; Gal. 6:14**). Because of their confidence, what did the Lord accomplish through these fathers of faith? If fear was not a factor, and you leaned wholly on your confidence in the Lord, what would you accomplish today?

Jeremiah 20:11 paints a picture of a confident warrior. Read this passage and discuss the benefit of having the Lord fighting your battles.

Read Psalm 23. How does this scripture and the imagery contained in it give you confidence in your daily life and God's will for you?

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**2) HE WANTS YOU TO MAKE DISCIPLES. Read Matthew 28:19-20.**

How would you define a disciple? How can we go about transforming the people around us into a disciple of Christ?

Who did Jesus say He was sending to be with us in **Acts 1:8**? How was this a game changer in the Apostles carrying out God's will for their lives?

Read **2 Timothy 2:2**. What is God will for "entrusting" us with the gospel message of Christ? Who is someone on your radar right now who you could disciple to pass on the teaching of Christ faithfully?

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**3) HE WANTS YOU TO BE ASSURED BY HIS PRESENCE. Read Matthew 28:20.**

Jesus says in **John 16:7** that we will benefit from his departure because the Spirit of God will come to be with us. Read **Romans 8:9-11;14-17** and discuss what we gain through the presence of the Spirit.

It was God's will that Joshua take over leading the Hebrew people after Moses' death. Read God's message to Joshua in **Deuteronomy 31:6**. How can we apply this encouragement in our own lives?

**Read Psalm 44:1-3**. God's presence was with the Israelites and they were successful and prosperous because of His love for them. Do you think they were always confident in his will for them to conquer the land? What areas of your life are you struggling to believe are God's will, and what can you do to focus on His presence instead of your problems in the days ahead?

**Apply It:**

How are you following the pattern of Jesus and Paul right now in making disciples? What areas of your life do you need a greater dependence on the strength and grace of Jesus? Take steps to focus on His presence with you this week and call on Him when you have opportunity to share with others!

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**Pray:**

Lord give us confidence to trust in your word and will for our lives. May we constantly seek you and your presence in our lives to give us strength to accomplish that which you've called us to do. Amen.

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**Coming up at VillageChurch:**

**March 18th** - The BIG Serve (Prayer walks, street clean up, Yard work for disabled, Music outreach)

**March 31st** - Easter Eggstravaganza (Sign up to work a station; fill goody bags and click eggs!)

**April 1st** - Easter Sunday (VillageKids Choir singing)

**April 22nd** - BIG Tent Revival

**May 13th** - Mother's Day: Baby Dedication, VillageKids Choir singing