

## **Lesson 8: Doing God's Will**

Doing what God wants would be a lot easier if He just told us what to do, right?

God has given specific instructions before — blueprints for Noah, the Ten Commandments — but when you ask about a car, a job, or a college, you often hear... nothing. No burning bush. No dream. No whisper.

In this session you'll discover how to discern God's will. Here's the spoiler: It's not about receiving orders from headquarters.

It's about walking in close relationship with Jesus. He'll lead you where you need to go — if you trust Him enough to follow.

**Read: Romans 8:14** “For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.”

**Key insight:** God's will begins and ends with relationship. The closer you walk with Jesus, the clearer His direction becomes.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR MENTOR/DISCIPLER:** Share how you've learned to discern God's will in your own life. What helped most? How do you follow when the path isn't obvious?

### **A Conversation About God's Will**

#### **Core Idea 1: You Are God's Child and Friend**

God sees you as His beloved child and friend. When you said yes to Jesus, you joined His family.

**Read:** Romans 5:10-11 “For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son. So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.”

When you live as God's child and friend, obedience flows naturally from love, not duty.

**Discussion:** How does seeing God as your loving Father and friend change the way you think about His will?

#### **Core Idea 2: God's Will Is Always Best for You**

God wants what is best for you — always. Even when life feels hard, He is working for your good.

**Read:** Romans 8:28 “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

You don't have to fear missing God's will. When you love Him and follow Him, He uses everything for good.

### **Core Idea 3: Knowing God's Will and Doing God's Will**

Knowing God's will is one thing. Doing it is another.

**Read:** James 4:7 “Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”

Submission means ordering your life according to God's purposes instead of insisting on your own independence. Obedience leads to freedom and spiritual safety.

**Discussion:** On a scale of 1–10, how independent would others say you are? How might that affect your ability to follow God's will?

### **Core Idea 4: Discovering God's Will Is Incremental**

God usually reveals His will gradually, not all at once. It becomes clearer as you grow closer to Him and walk faithfully day by day.

He speaks through Scripture, prayer, wise believers, circumstances, and the Holy Spirit. Be patient — keep walking, and the picture will sharpen.

### **Core Idea 5: God's Will Can Be Hindered**

We can get in the way of God's will through:

- Wrong motives (asking out of impatience or pride)
- Bad or broken relationships
- Ongoing, willful sin
- Growing weary and giving up

Stay humble, repent quickly, and keep depending on God.

### **Core Idea 6: The Cycle of Confirmation**

To test whether an idea is God's will, use this four-part cycle:

- **Bible** — Does Scripture support or contradict it?
- **Others** — Wise, mature believers confirm it.

- **Spirit** — Do you have genuine peace from the Holy Spirit?
- **Circumstances** — Are doors opening or closing in a way that aligns?

When all four line up and increase together, you can move forward with confidence.

### **Core Idea 7: Four Practical Principles**

- Ask God for extra grace experiences when big decisions loom.
- Trust God's timing — even when it feels slow.
- If needed, lay out a "fleece" (a clear sign) and wait for God to answer.
- Take a first small step of faith — God often confirms as you move.

### **Core Idea 8: Journaling Helps You See God's Hand**

Keep a simple journal of:

- Points of obedience
- Insights from Scripture or prayer
- Prayers answered

Over time you'll see patterns and God's faithful leading.

### **Memory verse to consider**

"For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God" (Romans 8:14).

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

### **This Week's Action**

During the next week:

1. Choose one decision you're facing and walk it through the Cycle of Confirmation.
2. Write the name of that decision in your journal and pray about it daily.
3. Take one small step of obedience and note what happens.

### **How can I pray for you?**

Pray for each other: Clear discernment of God's will, courage to obey quickly, deeper trust in His perfect timing, and freedom from anything that hinders His leading.