



OUTBACK

WHERE THE WILEY THINGS ARE

Wiley Union Church Student Ministries, Yakima, WA

How can I know God's will?

“So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.”

Ephesians 5:17

How can I know God's Will?

Knowing God's will starts by knowing God.

1. 1 John 4:8. *God is Love.*
2. Psalm 139:7-12. *God is Omnipresent.*
3. Colossians 2:3. *God is Omniscient.*
4. Psalm 90:2. *God is Eternal.*
5. Psalm 145:17. *God is Righteous.*
6. Revelation 19:6. *God is Omnipotent.*
7. Hebrews 6:13. *God is Sovereign.*

Knowing God's will starts by knowing God.

Ezekiel 1:28:

“As the appearance of the rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the appearance of the surrounding radiance.”

“Such was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. And when I saw it, I fell on my face and heard a voice speaking.”

The Rainbow?

Where else does the Bible talk about a rainbow?

- ~~1. After the creation of the earth.~~
- ~~2. At the birth of Christ.~~
3. After the flood (Noah's Ark).
- ~~4. At the resurrection of Christ.~~

Look up Genesis 9:8-17.

The Rainbow?

God used the rainbow as the sign of His promise that He would never again destroy the earth by flood.

The rainbow is what God chose to put in the sky whenever rain clouds form to remind us of His character.

His promise is supported by His character which the rainbow reminds us of.

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God.

God is love:

1. A type of love that is not based on conditions, therefore it is not earned, deserved, or dependent on actions or behavior.
2. A type of love that is given regardless of the response it receives, therefore it is not stopped by rejection, fear, or by being ignored.
3. A type of love that is self-sacrificial, therefore it is selfless, doing what is best for the one being loved.

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God.

God is Omnipresent:

1. "Omni" means "all" in the sense of "complete," therefore God is in "all places" or is "completely present."
2. Therefore, there is no place anyone can go to "get away from God."
3. Therefore, there is no place anyone can be where God is not present.

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God is Omniscient:

1. "Omni" means "all" in the sense of "complete." "Scient" refers to knowledge, therefore God is "all knowing" or is "completely knowing."
2. Therefore, there is nothing God does not know about.
3. Therefore, nothing is unknown to God.

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God.

God is Eternal:

1. "Eternal" means "always existent."
2. Therefore, God has never not existed.
3. Therefore, God will never not exist.

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God is Righteous:

1. "Righteous" means in complete conformity to the standard.
2. Therefore, God does only those things which conform to the standard.
3. Therefore, God does all things perfectly.

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God is Omnipotent:

1. "Omni" means "all" in the sense of "complete." "Potent" means "powerful," therefore God is "all powerful" or "completely powerful".
2. Therefore, God has the power to do anything.
3. Therefore, God is not limited by anything.

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God is Sovereign:

1. "Sovereign" means "to govern over all things." Therefore, God governs over all things.
2. Therefore, God is not ruled by any others.
3. Therefore, God is the One to Whom all things are responsible.

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

Romans 1:20-25 teaches us that:

1. God's attributes are clearly seen through *creation* (v. 20).
2. Those who do not "honor" God become *fools* (vv.21-22).
3. Those who do not "honor" God worship *creatures* (vv. 23 and 25).

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

“Honor” in Romans 1:20-25 means “to give proper value to something based on its attributes.”

Those who do not give proper value to God choose to ignore His attributes. This leads to them doing their own will, because they fail to recognize God as their ruler.

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

If you truly want to know God's will, you must first know God.

Jesus said something similar to the Jews. Some of the Jews were saying Jesus wasn't doing God's will, and so Jesus told them:

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

“My teaching is not Mine, but His who sent Me. If anyone is willing to do His will, he will know of the teaching, whether it is of God or whether I speak from Myself. He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who is seeking the glory of the One who sent Him, He is true, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.”

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

Jesus told them:

1. Those wanting to do God's will are able to know His will because it comes from God.

Knowing God allows us to know what He would say or ask us to do.

2. Those wanting to do God's will seek God's glory, not their own.

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

Jesus also said this in John 10:25-27:

“I told you, and you do not believe; the works that I do in My Father's name, these testify of Me. But you do not believe because you are not of My sheep. ***My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me;***”

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

Jesus teaches the Jews that only the sheep of the Shepherd know the Shepherd's voice.

When you know who God is, and allow Him to be the ruler of your life, then you will start being able to hear His voice. His voice will say what God would say, it will ask you to do what God would want you to do, and it will be supported by peace that passes all understanding.

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

All of this is because God's will is based on who He is, not on who we are.

Are you giving God the proper value He deserves?

Are you allowing Him to rule over you, your desires, your dreams, your thoughts?

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

John 3:1-2:

“Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews; this man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, ‘Rabbi, we know that You have come From God as a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.’”

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

John 3:3-4:

“Jesus answered and said to him, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot enter the kingdom of God.’”

Nicodemus said to Him, ‘How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born, can he?’”

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Look at Jesus' response in John 3:5-7:

“Jesus answered, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be amazed that I said to you, “You must be born again.”””

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

“That which is born of WATER”

WATER is symbolic of physical birth.

Every person is born of water. Jesus explains that the water means born of the flesh-physical birth.

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

Remember the rainbow?

God chose the rainbow to be a visible representation of His character.

And then God sent Jesus into the world so that through Jesus all humanity could see God's character and His will.

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

So Jesus was born physically. That means Jesus was born of water.

And Jesus was God in the flesh. Mary was told she was going to have a son which would be God in human form. That's Jesus.

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

Check out 1 John 1:5:

“This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.”

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Jesus is God in the flesh.

Those born in the flesh are born of water

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

Science even agrees!

How are rainbows formed?

Rainbows are seen when light passes through water and the natural attributes of light that are not usually seen are bent so that they are visible.

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

When was God seen on earth?

Humanity saw God (Jesus) when the light (God) passed through water (physical birth).

The rainbow represents God's Character, but Jesus is God Himself!

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

Knowing Jesus allows us to understand God's will.

Remember how Jesus explained God's plan of Salvation to Nicodemus who was confused?

Jesus explains God and God's will to us during His life. Learning about Jesus allows us to know God better.

Knowing God allows us to know His will.

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

The Bible is the mind of Christ. Revelation 1:1-2 says:

“The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John, who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw.”

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

John then says,

“Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.”

Knowing God's Will starts by Knowing God

Knowing God's will starts by knowing God.

Knowing Jesus teaches us more about God.

Reading the Bible, God's word, teaches us more about God.

How much time do you spend reading God's Word?

Are you learning more about God during your day?

How Can I know God's Will?

1. Knowing God's Will starts by knowing God.
2. Knowing Jesus allows us to understand God's Will.
3. Knowing God's will requires submission to God.

How can I know God's Will?

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Knowing God's will Requires Submission to God.

Jesus said,

“If anyone wants to come after Me he must deny himself, pick up his cross daily and follow Me.”

Luke 9:23

Knowing God's will Requires Submission to God.

Jesus said there are three things to following Him:

1. Deny yourself.
2. Pick up your cross.
3. Follow Him.

Knowing God's will Requires Submission to God.

1. Deny Yourself:

1. Choose to ignore your natural desires.
2. Choose to ignore your own emotions.
3. Choose to ignore your own agendas.
4. Choose to ignore your "goodness."
5. Choose to ignore your "badness."
6. Choose to ignore your sinful lusts.
7. Choose to ignore your natural abilities, strengths, and compulsions.

Knowing God's will Requires Submission to God.

2. Pick up your Cross:

1. Die to yourself.
2. Put to death the desires of your flesh (Colossians 3:5).
3. Put to death the deeds of the body (Romans 12:13).

~~"For if you are living according to the flesh, your earthly body will die because of the Spirit, in part because of evil desire, the anger of which your body will live."~~

Knowing God's will Requires Submission to God.

1. Follow Him:

1. Jesus is the way (John 14:6).
2. Jesus submitted to God (Philippians 2:5-8).

“Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.”

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life; No man comes to the Father except through Me.”

Knowing God's will Requires Submission to God.

Knowing God's will requires that we be willing to submit to Him.

We must submit our will to God as slaves He has set free. Willingly returning our freedom to God for Him to do what He will with us.

We do this because He alone is the rightful ruler of the universe, humanity, and each and every one of us and because it was Him who set us free from sin.

Knowing God's will Requires Submission to God.

Have you come to God through Jesus Christ?

Are you in this moment, dead to yourself?

If not, are you willing to do so now?

Knowing God's will Requires Submission to God.

“But just as it is written,

‘Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and which have not entered into the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love Him.’”

1 Corinthians 2:9



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