I. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO PRAY FOR GOD’S WILL TO BE DONE?

   A. It doesn’t mean...

      1. It doesn’t mean we’re asking God to change His will or bless our will, but for God’s help in finding His will—Phil 2:12-13.

      2. Neither does it mean that whatever happens is always God’s will.

      3. Someone might ask “If God is all powerful and sovereign why isn’t His will always done whether we pray or not.”

         a. This is resignation and suggests prayer is futile.

         b. Furthermore it’s fatalism to think that God’s going to do whatever He wants to do?

   B. So what does it mean when we pray for God’s will to be done?

      1. It means we want God’s will to be done on earth as it is in heaven.

      2. It means we want God to use us to accomplish His will.

      3. It means we are saying no to our will in order to say yes to God’s will—Phil. 1:6.

      4. It means we’re seeking to know God’s will.

      5. It means we are giving up control of our lives to God.

      6. It means we’re trusting God to do what’s right—Romans 8:28.

      7. It means we’re willing to submit to God’s will.

II. THERE OF SEVERAL BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF PEOPLE PRAYING FOR GOD’S WILL TO BE DONE.

   A. King David prayed this prayer—Psa. 40-8.

   B. Mary, prayed this prayer—Luke 1:38.

   C. Jesus also prayed this prayer—John 4:34 and Matt. 26:39.
III. WHY IS IT OFTEN HARD TO PRAY FOR GOD’S WILL TO BE DONE?

A. For one thing, we must be willing to let go of our will and that’s a hard thing to do.

B. For another thing, we may be afraid of what God wants us to do.

IV. BEFORE WE CAN PRAY FOR GOD’S WILL WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT HIS WILL IS?

A. The first important question to ask about God’s will is what does the Bible say? — Psa. 119:105.

B. We also need to pray to know God’s will—James 1:5.

C. Also seek the guidance of godly people you trust—Prov. 11:14.

D. What do your circumstances say?—1 Cor. 16:7-9

E. He often speaks through our common sense—Prov. 16:22.

Proverbs 16:22 (Contemporary English Version—CEV)
Good sense is a fountain that gives life...