# Discovering God's will

- It is a lifelong pursuit to stay in the exact center of God's plan.
- This question will never grow old because generation after generation must answer it.
- It is not easy to answer, unless we look into some great Biblical truths from the Bible.
- David said: "The Lord is my shepherd.... He leads me.... (Ps.32:1-2).

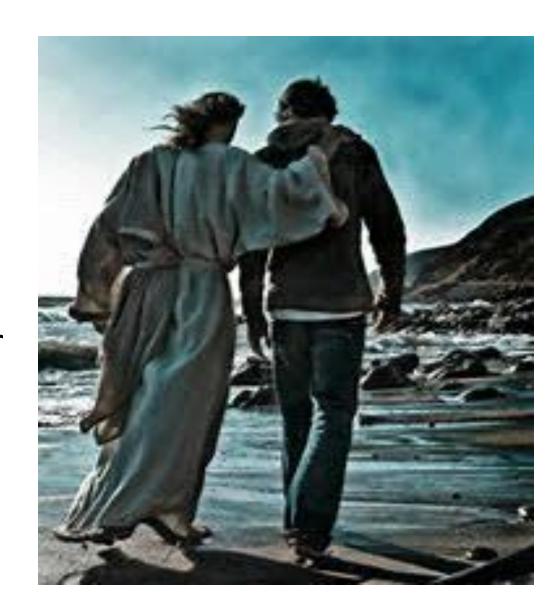


#### 8-steps to know the WILL OF GOD

#### 1) Walk with the Lord.

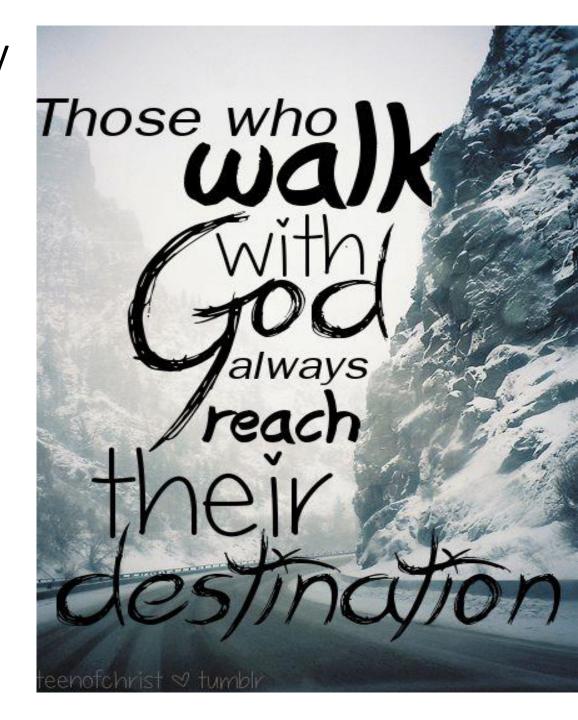
"Trust in the Lord with all our heart, and lean not on our own understanding; In all our ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct our paths" (Pro.3:5-6).

- We need to develop a relationship with Him.
- Christianity is all about relationship rather than just religion.
- We must cultivate our relationship with God.
- We must seek to know Him and not just seek to know about Him.



- We can cultivate that relationship by spending time in His Word, taking time for prayer, and taking every opportunity we can to be involved in EU meetings and in church and in Bible study groups.
- When we seek these disciplines in our life, God will begin the first steps to revealing His plan to us.

"Enoch walked with God and he was not, for God took him" (Gen.5:24)



#### We need to fulfil 7-conditions:

#### a) Willingness to learn.

We must be willing to learn how to find God's will. God will not force us and push us to do His will. God has given free will to all. So we must say with faith, "Lord, teach me to find Thy will" (Psa. 143:10).

#### b) Willingness to deny your worldly desires (Matt. 26: 39).

We must be willing to die to our own will. Many times we make up our mind about something and then go to God for sanction. In many offices, clerks write everything and take it to the officer who gives formal sanction, sometimes without even

#### c) **Delight in doing God's will** (Psa. 40: 8)

- We must be willing to do God's will joyfully and wholeheartedly, not half-heartedly.
- God's plan is the best plan for us, and there is no reason why we should accept it half-heartedly.

For example: When God asked Philip to go to the desert (Acts 8: 26).

#### d) No confidence in one's own understanding (Prov. 3: 5).

- Lean not unto thine own understanding. We cannot depend on our own understanding. We have to say, "Lord, you are my wisdom. I am not depending on my own wisdom".
- We can do so by strong faith. If we want to find God's will and do it, we must leave all our understanding and depend on His divine wisdom.

#### e) Perfect confidence in God's will.

- Even for very small things we must go to God. We may think "This is a small thing; Why shoul we ask God about doing that?"
- But bible says that we have to acknowledge Him in all our ways.
- If we want to grow spiritually, even in small matters we must find, God's will, because we are not our own (1 Cor. 6:19,20).
- Our time, energy and money belong to Him alone. We have no claim over anything.



- f) Willingness to keep our bodies clean. (Rom. 12:1, 2).
- We should keep our bodies clean and unspotted from sin of all kinds.
- Then it will be acceptable as a living sacrifice. We should not imitate worldly people in dress, haircut etc.
- We are a heavenly people and must live a life of separation.
- A consecrated life.
- Our body is the temple of the Holy spirit.
- "Unless we are holy and pure, we will not be able to see God" (Matt. 5: 8; Heb. 12:14).

#### g). Willingness to have a renewed mind (Rom.12:2).

If we want to know God's will, we must have a renewed mind. We should not be persistent in having our own way.

For ex: the children of Israel wanted a king.

- Warned them what they would have to undergo indifference, after getting a king.
- We should have a renewed mind, because our natural mind is stubborn Through the Renewing of Your Mind! and self-willed.



#### 2) Surrender your will to God.

- Many times when we say we are seeking God's will, what we are really wanting to say to God is this: "OK, God, here's what I'm planning to do. Now I need your rubber stamp in this."
- Pray like Samuel as the young boy.
- Peter began to say to Him, "Behold, we have left everything and followed You" (Mk.10:28).
- Jesus was willing to die for us, so shouldn't we be willing to live for Him?
- When we surrender to Him, that is when He really begins to direct our steps.

## 3) Obey what we already know to be God's Will.

- Many people seem to want to know what God's plan is for their lives, but they overlook the fact that 98% of His will is already described carefully through His Word.
- God is very clear about many, many aspects of His will.
  - For ex: it is clearly written that we abstain from sexual immorality..... (1 Thess.4:3-7).
- Obedience is the first step. So, first thing is always first.



#### 4) Seek godly input.

- Everyone must seek godly advisors, seniors, mentors or elders in EU/EGF or church.
- If we don't currently have 2-3 godly mentors, then I would highly recommend that we seek them out right now.
- But if we surround ourselves with people who are far from God, our hope of finding His best for our life will be greatly diminished.
- "For lack of guidance a nation falls, but victory is won through many advisers" (Prov.11:14).
- Our Eu/EGF, the church are designed to help us greatly for this.



#### 5) THINK OF HOW GOD LED YOU TILL TODAY.

- God has gifted every one of us to perform a special mission or specific role for which we alone were created.
- How amazing is that?
- There is no one else who can achieve completely what God has purposely created us to do.
- The Apostle Peter says: "As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God" (1 Pet.4:10).
- The great news is that we will automatically be good at whatever it is that He has called us to do!

#### 6) LISTEN TO GOD'S SPIRIT.

- We need to listen to God's voice, His Spirit just as young Samuel listened to God.
- At times, we must simply shut up and learn from Him. We must spend good amount of time in prayer.
- Our prayer life must increase.
- Prayer changes everything. Prayer brings transformation.
- Many times we are too busy with many trivial things, forgetting the essential component of our life which is prayer.



As an young person you can put in writing the following before you pray to God.

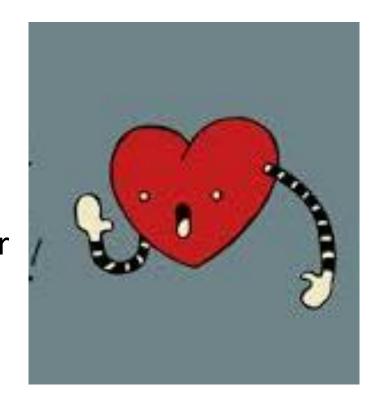
- a) What is the next step in my education?
- b) What is the next step in my finances?
- c) What is the next step in my career?
- d) What is the next step in my ministry?
- e) What is the next step for my marriage?
- f) What is the next step for my family?
- We need to meditate on questions such as above.
- Often, God will start flooding your heart with ideas and information regarding one or more of the above questions.
- "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me" (Jn.10:27).

#### 7) Listen to your heart.

■ We must also listen to our heart too.

"Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass" (Ps.37:4-5).

- In other words, when I am walking with the Lord, He will actually let me do many really cool things that I actually love to do!
- When we are close to Him, He actually begins to shape our desires so that we can bring glory and praise to God.
- Then, His plan for me actually becomes a super-exciting adventure.
- I always have the most fun in life when I am doing God's will.
- That's because He shapes my desires, and He wants to do the things for which He has actually created me.



#### 8) Take a look at our circumstances.

- God clearly demonstrates His plan for our lives by lining up circumstances in obvious ways.
- He also shows us what His will is NOT for us to do in that same way.

Ex: It is not His will for us to take the job that is not offered to us.

If we are 5' 9" tall does not mean God created us to play professional volley ball

- I have discovered that God is pretty good at opening and closing doors.
- He even did that for the Apostle Paul on his journey in (Acts. 16:6-10).
- Every open door is NOT necessarily leading to God's plan, but it does help to give us some basic direction.

"No good thing does He withhold from those whose walk is blameless" (Ps.84:11b).

### WHAT ARE THE EVIDENCES OF FINDING GOD'S WILL?

There are 7-evidences by which we can know that we really know the will of God.

- (1) Peace (Isa. 32:17).
- "Our God is the God of peace" (Heb. 13:20, 21).
- Whenever God reveals His will to us first there should be a sense of the inward peace in our hearts multiplying and flowing like a river.
- After praying over any matter in the morning, midday or evening we must watch to see if the peace multiplies. If it does so, then we can be sure of His will.
- Only believers can find God's will because they have obtained the peace of God. Unbelievers cannot find God's will.

#### (2) The word of God (Psa.

119:105).

- We must have the witness of the Word of God.
- While reading our Bible, from our daily portion, God will give a verse or a full verse to confirm His will.



- (3) Witness of fellow-believers, graduates, elders. (Dan. 2:17-19).
- By praying with other believers, we get further witness.
- As Daniel and His friends prayed together God revealed to Daniel the dream and its meaning.
- So, as we pray together with one mind, God will reveal His will to us.
- Definite prayer with fellow believers will bring more confirmation to the already revealed will of God.

#### (4) Boldness (Acts 21:10-14).

We will get very strong faith, free from fear and anxiety, for doing a thing, if it is in the will of God.

Ex: The Lord spoke clearly to the apostle Paul to go to Jerusalem. On the way prophet Agabus took Paul's girdle and bound his own hands and feet and said:

- But Paul replied that God had told him to go, and he was willing even to lay down his life in doing God's will.
- He had no fear because he knew he was in the will of God and had strong faith.
- If we are in His will, we shall have no fear, no doubt, no worry.
- God will supply all our needs and fill us with His strength.



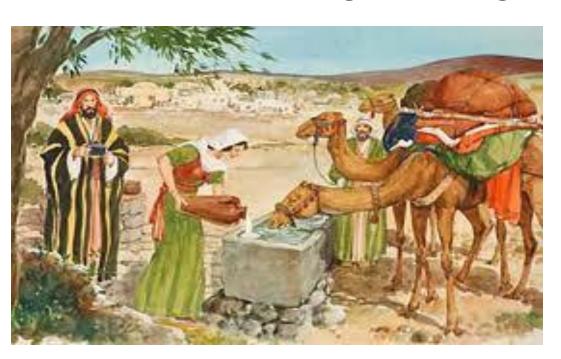
**Prophet Agabus** 

#### (5) Fulfilment of a sign

■ Sometimes we can ask some sign from the Lord to fulfill it. However this is not always necessary.

Ex: Eleazer put forth a peculiar sign before God to be sure of choosing the right bride for his master's son (Gen.24: 10-14).

Gideon asked for sign before going to the war (Jud.6:33-40)





#### (6) Glory to God (Heb.13:21).

- God's name must be highly magnified and glorified through the work or matter for which you are praying.
- We should say: "Lord, I want only your name to be magnified in this matter".
   We must desire God's glory and not our own comfort, name or fame.

#### (7) Blessing to others. (Acts. 26:16-19)

- When Paul was obedient to God's will and plan, he was used to bring blessing to others. He became a witness of God to all people.
- In the same way, when we do anything in the will of God it will be a source of blessing to many people.
- It will strengthen them and bring edification to the whole group or church.
- We cannot learn all this in a day but need to practice day by day.
- For example: We do not learn cooking in one day.

May the Lord teach us all how to find His will and help us to become wise in His sight

"Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is" (Eph.5:17).

# Thank you for your patient listening. God bless you.

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