

# **How to Know the Will of God**

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## I. Introduction.

A. There is the matter of finding the will of God on the big matters of life and then the everyday decisions. But one cannot go to God for every decision.

B. For Jesus the will of God was to please the Father.

## II. God's will.

A. The will of God simplifies life.

B. The will of God is perfect and acceptable. (Romans 12:22, Deuteronomy 5:29, Isaiah 48:17-18)

C. God has promised to guide us. (Psalm 32:8-9)

D. We are to understand what the will of God is. It is possible to do this. (Ephesians 5:17)

E. Often times the will of God leads us into a different kind of trouble.

F. We must know the will of God in times of trouble.

## III. Parts of God's will.

A. That which applies to everyone.

1. The commandments.

2. Giving thanks.

3. Doing everything without grumbling.

B. That which applies to a person - God's particular will. (1 Samuel 3:8)

## IV. Arriving at the will of God.

A. Heart preparation.

1. This requires confessing sin. (Psalm 68:16)

a. You begin with the "inlook," not the outlook.

b. This is tuning into the will of God.

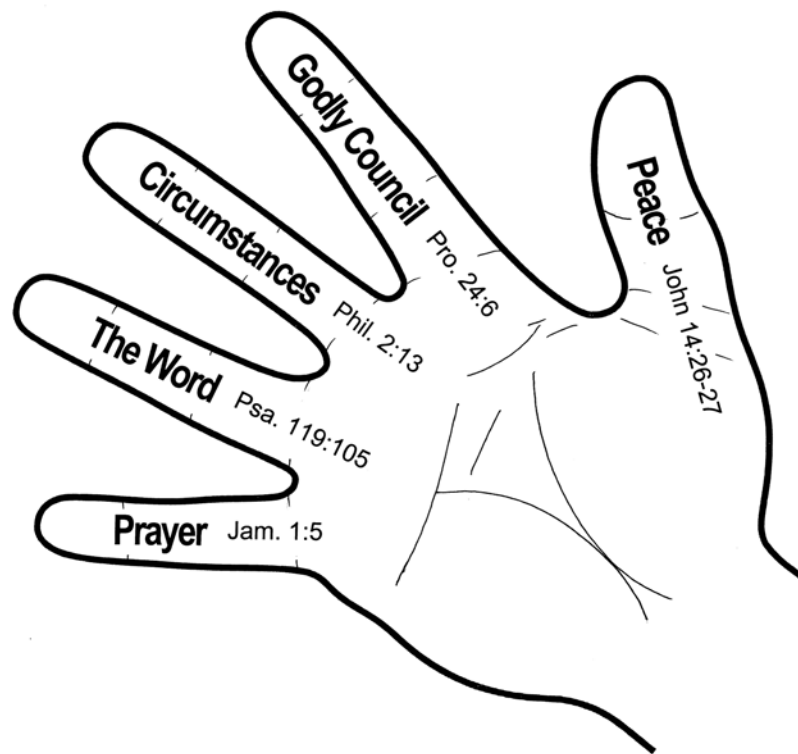
2. Obedience towards the already known will of God. (Jonah)

3. Surrender.

a. One must surrender to the will of God whatever it is before we know it. (John 7:17)

b. This is because God is a Person who loves us and wants us to be in relationship with Him. He wants to be trusted. (Psalm 56:13)

c. We have to surrender people, prejudice, pride and our own will.



B. Prayer.

1. Pray in faith. (James 1:5)

2. Watch for the answer. (Psalm 5:3)

a. Through the Word of God. God can speak through the general tone of the Scripture.

b. Through providential circumstances.

c. Through reason. God enlightens the understanding. (Psalm 32)

- 1) Way the pros and cons.
- 2) Stop and ask yourself why you are doing something.
3. Seek council.
  - a. Consult past experience but do not lean on it. (Proverbs 3:5-6)
  - b. The inner conviction of the Spirit. This is a gentle tug not a inner turmoil. (Romans 8:14)
4. Wait in faith that the Lord may be gracious. (Isaiah 38)
  - a. Wait for three lights:
  - b. The Word of God.
  - c. Providential circumstances.
  - d. An inner conviction from the Spirit.
5. Act in faith that God has led.
  - a. Never doubt in the dark what God has told you in the light. (Isaiah 52:12)
  - b. God is at work in you. This is a fact we can count on regardless of our feelings. (Philippians 2:13)

### **Application questions**

1. What are the benefits of knowing God's will?

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2. How does the speaker suggest one can know God's will?

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3. What issues are you facing that need God's guidance? How will you go about this in light of the message?

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