

GRACE BIBLE CHURCH LORTON

God's Will: How to "Find" It

Various Scriptures

Doug Sachtleben, Lead Pastor

December 30, 2018

This morning we will look at five biblical principles that help Christians as they seek God's will.

Book Recommendations:

Finding the Will of God: A Pagan Notion? (2nd Ed) by Bruce Waltke (2016)

Just Do Something by Kevin DeYoung (2009)

1. Know that God is sovereign

Ephesians 1:11

Psalm 135:6-7

Proverbs 21:1

Isaiah 46:9-10

A challenge God's sovereignty brings to our understanding of God's will: What about sin, evil, suffering and death (Acts 4:27-28)?

There is God's sovereign decree by which He works all things after the counsel of His will. But there is also God's will that is expressed in His desires and precepts.

2. Obey the Bible's clear statements of God's will

For example: Exodus 20:3-5; Luke 10:27; Acts 17:30; 1 Thessalonians 4:3, 5:18; 1 Peter 1:16; Joshua 1:8; Proverbs 4:23; John 15:12; Ephesians 4:29, 32, 5:17-18

3. Cherish the freedom your loving heavenly Father gives you to make choices and nurture a heart filled with godly desires.

For example: 1 Corinthians 10:27 and Acts 20:16

Psalm 37:4

4. Seek Godly wisdom as you make important decisions.

For example: Proverbs 4
Believers seek wisdom by:
Studying God's Word
Praying and asking God for wisdom
Talking to other mature believers

5. Trust God and go forward

For example: Matthew 6:25-33

Questions to Consider

1. Think about an experience or two that you've had seeking God's will for an important decision. What did you learn from those experiences? What Bible verses or counsel from other Christians were especially helpful?
2. What should God's sovereignty do for your heart when it comes to making important decisions? Also, here's a suggested starting point for further study if you want to read more of what the Bible says about God's will of decree and His will of desire: <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/are-there-two-wills-in-god>
3. Besides those listed in the sermon, are there other verses that clearly state God's will for Christians? Which one(s) do you need to focus on? Commit to memorizing a number of these verses in 2019.
4. What's an example of a decision that you face or have recently made that had no clear biblical command or prohibition? Are there biblical principles that influence(d) your choice?
5. How are you nurturing a heart that produces Godly desires (cf. Psalm 37:4)?
6. Have you sought wisdom from other mature Christians for a decision or action that you faced? Has pride ever kept you from doing so?
7. Based on Matthew 6:33, what should our priority be in the pursuit of God's will?