

## “Finding The Lord’s Will”

⇒ **Text:** Romans 12:1-2

⇒ **Intro:**

- The Christian is one who has renounced his own will and submits to the will of God.
- The problem that faces every Christian is how to ascertain the will of God.
- The life of Jesus Christ on earth is a perfect illustration of absolute conformity to the will of God.
  - Hebrews 10:7, “**Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God.**”
    - Jesus Christ came to earth to fulfill God’s will.
  - Jesus actually finished the work that the Father gave Him to do on earth.
    - John 17:4, “**...I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.**”
- As Jesus was assigned a specific task to perform on earth, so each Christian is similarly assigned a special task.
- It is your responsibility and mine to learn from the Lord the plan for our lives.

⇒ **I. GOD HAS A PLAN FOR EVERY LIFE**

- There is a divine blueprint for each one of God’s people.

- This plan is suited to our personalities, talents, needs, potentialities and environment.
- Ephesians 2:10, **“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.”**
  - God has ordained certain specific tasks, works for each individual Christian.
- Hebrews 12:1, **“...run with patience the race that is set before us,”**
  - There is a different race for each one of us.
- The Apostle Paul could say, **“...I have finished my course,...”** II Timothy 4:7.
- Acts 22:14, **“And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will,...”**
  - God wanted Paul to know the Lord’s will.
- God’s plan for you is very personal.
  - It is just for you.
    - Psalm 32:8, **“I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.”**
- God’s plan is very detailed.
  - Psalm 37:23, **“The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD:...”**

- God doesn't always reveal the distant future, but step by step.
- God's plan is continuous.
  - Isaiah 58:11, "**And the LORD shall guide thee continually,...**"
- God's plan is definite and specific.
  - Isaiah 30:21, "**And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.**"
    - The Lord guides by His Spirit through the Word.
- God wants us to enquire about His plan.
  - Psalm 143:8, "**...cause me to know the way wherein I should walk;...**"
    - God wants us to be much in prayer for daily details.
- The will of God is always good, acceptable and perfect for that particular believer.
  - Romans 12:2, "**...that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.**"

⇒ **II. GOD'S PLAN IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR EVERY LIFE**

- It is a sad fact that it is possible to miss the plan of God in our selfish and stubborn ways to do our own planning.
  - This is a tragic mistake and to be avoided.
- We are incapable of planning our own lives.

- Jeremiah 10:23, “**O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.**”

- Only God knows the future and He is the One capable of choosing our vocation or path.

### ⇒ III. GOD’S PLAN ALWAYS INCLUDES CERTAIN FEATURES

- Separation from sin unto holiness.
  - I Thessalonians 4:3, “**For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:**”
- Prayer and thanksgiving are always God’s will for us.
  - I Thessalonians 5:17,18, “**Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.**”
- Doing good deeds is always God’s will.
  - I Peter 2:15, “**For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:**”

### ⇒ IV. CONDITIONS OF GUIDANCE

- 1. “**Trust in the Lord...**” – Psalm 37:3
  - Psalm 32:8, “**I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye.**”
    - Guidance is only for the believer.
    - God’s plan for the unsaved consists of one point—believe and be saved.

- 2. **“Delight thyself also in the LORD:...”** – Psalm 37:4
  - In other words be eager, willing to know His will and obey.
- 3. **“Commit thy way unto the LORD;...”** – Psalm 37:5
  - We must have complete, explicit faith in Him.
- 4. **“Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him:...”** – Psalm 37:7
  - God promises to guide, but not necessarily to reveal His will the same day that you request it.
- 5. Surrender to the will of God.
  - We must be willing to obey His will.
    - **See Romans 12:1-2.**
- 6. Separation from the world and all known sin.
  - Romans 12:2, **“And be not conformed to this world...that ye may prove...”**
    - Separation, then, the revealing of His will.
- 7. Spiritual mindedness, Romans 12:2, **“...renewing of your mind...”**
  - In other words, your mind should be in tune with the Lord, His Spirit, His Book, to be able to hear His still, small voice.

⇒ **V. METHODS OF GUIDANCE**

- The question then comes, How does God reveal His will to the seeking individual?

- The truth is that God is sovereign and does not work according to a set pattern, for he deals with each person differently.
- 1. God often guides through verses of Scripture that speaks loudly to you.
  - Caution: Don't close your eyes and point at a random verse.
  - God does not act haphazardly.
  - Saturate yourself with the Word of God that the Lord can bring various portions to your mind.
    - God's will is never contrary to the Bible.
    - Therefore, know the Word.
- 2. Inner Conviction that is given by the Spirit of God.
  - Romans 8:16, "**The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit,...**" – that a certain course of action is right or wrong.
  - Caution: Ask yourself, "Is it the voice of my own desires or is it what God wants me to do?"
  - **Examples:**
    - Acts 13:2, "**...Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.**"
  - The Holy Spirit has been given for the purpose of guidance.
    - John 16:13, "**Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth:...**"
- 3. Circumstances.
  - God by circumstances closes one door and opens another.

- Nothing happens to the child of God by accident.
- Each item is planned by the Father.
- We accept the circumstances as guideposts in the direction of His leading.
- I driving, the red lights are equally valuable for guidance as the green lights.
- This mitigating circumstance may be a stop light, while we “wait patiently” for Him.
- 4. Proving the Lord or By putting out a fleece.
  - **See Judges 6:37-39.**
  - Gideon prayed that if certain things happened this way or that, then the Lord’s will would be accordingly.
  - Caution: Be careful and do not arrange the conditioning circumstances in such a way that our own will would inevitably win.
    - Example: Don’t say in a rainy season, “If it rains tomorrow I will go to town; if it doesn’t rain I will stay home,” when you really want to go to town very badly.

⇒ **VI. GEORGE MUELLER’S FORMULA FOR FINDING GUIDANCE**

- 1. Surrender your own will.
  - Have not definite choice in the matter.
  - Be absolutely neutral.
- 2. Seek the Spirit’s will through God’s Word.

- 3. Note providential circumstances.
- 4. Pray for guidance.
- 5. Wait on God.

⇒ **VII. F. B. MEYER'S FORMULA FOR GUIDANCE**

- “When the Word of God, the impulse of the Holy Spirit in my heart, and the outward circumstances are in harmony, then I am convinced that I am acting in accordance with the will of God.”

⇒ **CONCLUSION**

- Often in guidance it is a combination of several factors.
- You only need light for one step at a time.
  - Obey the light that God has already given you and then He will give you further light.
- Remember that God wants to give you both the master plan and minute details of your life.
  - Wait patiently on Him and He will reveal them day by day.
- Never go back on guidance.
  - Never try to out think God.