

Knowing God's Will

Welcome to Harvest Community Church

Series: Knowing God's Voice

Text: John 6:38

Knowing God's voice is essential to knowing God's will; hearing God's voice enable us to walk in His will. When Jesus taught us to pray, He started with - "*Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven*". The whole point of prayer is to know, implement and see the results of God's will in everything.

There are two words found in the New Testament that are used for the word "will" when talking about the will of God.

- Boulema- refers to God's sovereign will. This is God's predetermined plan for everything that happens in the universe. It is His master plan for the world, and it is fulfilled regardless of the decisions or choices of people. The Boulema will of God does not require the cooperation of man because the outcome is already determined. The Boulema will of God is found in His written Word and is clear. We do not need to seek this will of God because it is revealed in the Bible.
- Thelema refers to God's desire to experience and to live in His will, it refers to His individual plan for each person. In order for God's Thelema will to be accomplished, it requires our cooperation. We have the power to choose whether or not we will walk in God's individual will for our lives. When we speak of seeking the will of God this is what we are referring too.

The moral will of God is revealed in His commandments in His Word and it teaches us how we should live. The individual and sovereign wills of God for man never conflict with the moral will of God as revealed in the Bible. They always work in harmony.

There are three types of will operating in the world today:

- 1) Self-will – this is the will of man. It is the basic selfish nature that desires to walk in its own way. Self-will is when we make choices based on what we want and not what God wants. Self-will is the operation of the fleshly nature of man.
Jeremiah 10:23, 2 Peter 2:10. Psalm 81:12 One of the things that should mark the life of any spiritual leader is that they are not self-willed. **Titus 1:7**
- 2) Satan's will – Satan's specific desire is to do as much damage to God and his creation as he can. **John 10:10** Satan loves to come and sift all that is good and of God from our lives. Job, Peter, David and Sampson are just a few examples of this. **Luke 22:31**
- 3) God's will – This is His plans, His ways, His desires and His purposes.

The Chief concern of Jesus while He was on earth was to do the will of His Father. God's will was to bring all people into right **relationship** with Him. **John 6:38-40**
The entire purpose of Christ's life was to fulfill God's will. Even as a child this was His whole focus. **Luke 2:49** Jesus found His satisfaction, the fulfilment of His life and His strength in fulfilling the will of God. Jesus called it His **food**. **John 4:34, John 5:30**

What gave Jesus' life on earth meaning was the will of God. It was His bread and butter. The KJV said the will of God was his meat the NLT says it was His nourishment.

The reason so many Christians still find themselves under-nourished, **empty**, hungry and searching is that they are doing their own things. Jesus said, "I do not speak, act, or do anything on my own". **John 7:16, John 14:24, John 8:28, John 5:30**

Even when facing death and becoming the **sacrifice** for the sin of all of humanity from Adam until the last person, His focus was the will of God. **Matthew 26:39** When you desire nothing but the will of God for your life, you can be sure that God will speak to you.

The will of God is important because it determines many things.

- It determines our eternal **destiny**. **Matthew 7:14 ,21, 1 John 2:17**
- It is the basis of our **relationship** with God. **Matthew 12:50**
- It provides **direction**. **Jeremiah 10:23, Isaiah 53:6, Proverbs 3:5-6**
- It provides knowledge of the **future**. **Isaiah 46:9-10**
Man is able to function in the present and recall the past. We can plan for the future, but God is the only one with actual knowledge of it.
- It is important because we are **commanded** to know it.
Ephesians 5:17, Ephesians 6:6, 1 Samuel 15:22-23, Colossians 4:12
- The will of God results in doctrinal soundness. **John 7:17**
- It results in **answered** prayer. **1 John 3:22, John 9:31, 1 John 5:14**
- The will of God brings spiritual **blessing**. **Hebrews 10:36, Deuteronomy 28:1-2**
- It keeps you from the discipline and correction of God.
Deuteronomy 28:15, Hebrews 12:5-9, Luke 12:47
- Knowing the will of God results in a **successful** life. **Joshua 1:7-8, Psalm 1:1-3**

Remember, the proper **motivation** of doing the will of God matters. Our motive is to be love. Love desires to **please** the object of their affection. **John 14:15, John 14:21-23**