

CALL to PRAYER -

Ask the Father for the Spirit - Luke 11:13

Intro - I have heard that a most FAQ is, "What is God's will for my life?" Today is part 3 of "Discerning God's Will." We have noted the process/way to find God's will....it is the way of repentance - Rom. 12:2. Going in the opposite direction of the world is the way to find God's will. The path is not the "well-beaten path." Last week we addressed living in the light of God's will when we are in dark. *How do we act on the unknown?* Well, *What God hasn't spelled out He has left for us to figure out.* God gave us a will, and we can do as we please within the parameters of God revealed will. Today we begin to give some specifics and next week we will give more -(Heb. 6:3). I hope you leave here today with four things that you know is God's will for your life.

Ephesians 5:15-21 - Discerning God's Will - part 3**GOD'S WILL CAN BE UNDERSTOOD**

- We are to make good use of our time by taking time to understand God's will.
 - Eph. 5:15-17 Don't waste time, but take time to understand.
 - Is finding God's will worth your effort? Important enough to devote time to it? Prov. 2:3-5
 - It is foolish not to try and find out - Eph. 5:17
 - "If your phone was your Bible." (video) Scripture -v-screens
- God's will can be understood
 - We must crave it - John 4:34 (Matt. 5:6)
 - We should pray for it - Col. 1:9 (Col. 4:12)
 - We can learn it - Eph. 5:10
- God's Word is God's will
 - Psalm 119:105 Psalm 25:4-5

WHAT IS GOD'S WILL FOR MY LIFE?

After we are told to understand what the will of the Lord is...there is a list. This cluster of items is part of God's will for us to implement. Four specific items to implement in your life

1. **It is God's will that you be Spirit filled.** Eph. 5:18
 - a. To "be filled" means to be controlled or influenced by. (example used is drunkenness)
 - i. We are not to be filled with wine to the extent that it influences us
 1. We are not to be "under the influence" or drunk
 - ii. When someone is "under the influence" there is a change to their:

1. Walk	Talk	Actions
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 - b. Being filled with the Spirit means that we are under His control & guidance
 - i. He is to influence our Walk Gal. 5:16 (Eph. 4:1; 5:15)
 - ii. He is to influence our Talk Eph. 4:29-30
 - iii. He is to influence our Actions Gal. 5:22-25
 - c. We are to be filled and controlled with the Spirit...not with substances

2. **It is God's will that you learn godly songs.**

- a. Eph. 5:19 Do we know more godly songs or worldly songs?
 - i. We are well disciple and catechized by the world – its songs & sayings
- b. Three types of songs to learn
 - i. *Psalms*
 - 1. There are 150 of them – all inspired by God the Holy Spirit
 - 2. Be filled with His words and let them influence your words
 - ii. *Hymns*
 - 1. If you need a hymnal, we can get you one – use in your devotions
 - iii. *Spiritual Songs*
- c. We are to learn them to share them. *“...speaking to one another in...”*
 - i. A Christians conversation should have some gospel saturation.
 - ii. Don't just talk about the trivial....mention the spiritual.
 - 1. Sports/weather/ politics...are ok...but don't let it dominate
- d. It is God's will that you learn a godly song and then bring it up in conversation to encourage someone in our most holy faith.

3. **It is God's will that you be grateful**

- a. Eph. 5:20
- b. Thankfulness is to characterize the Christian's life
 - i. We are to give thanks for **ALL THINGS**, and we are to do so at **ALL TIMES**.
 - ii. Gratefulness should be an all-encompassing characteristic.
 - 1. Even our prayer requests should have imbedded thanks – Phil. 4:6
- c. Being ungrateful characterizes the ungodly
 - i. Rom. 1:21
- d. Not generic thanks but specific thanks. Trinitarian thanks
 - i. Eph. 5:20 *“...in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father”*
 - ii. Not to thank our luck stars, our good fortune...we are to thank GOD
 - 1. We are not just to be grateful, but grateful to God...the only true God...Trinitarian God
 - iii. The world doesn't want us to mention that NAME - Acts 4:18
 - iv. Be openly Trinitarian in your thanks. It is God's will that you are grateful to HIM

4. **It is God's will that you be last.**

- a. Eph. 5:21
- b. God's will for your greatness is for you to be a great servant.
 - i. Mark 9:35 Mark 10:44-45 humiliation is the path to exaltation
- c. It is God's will for you to put yourself last.
 - i. Philippians 2:3-4 1 Corinthians 10:24
 - ii. Husbands say to yourself, *“She is more important than me.”*
 - iii. Wives say to yourself, *“He is more important than me.”*
 - iv. Everybody...look around and say, *“They are more important than me.”*
- d. Be subject to one another in the fear of Christ. It is God's will for your life

Put all four of these into practice this week. Eph. 6:6