

GOD'S WILL FOR MY LIFE



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"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you."

Psalm 32:8

PROMISES

Be sure God will guide you if you are His humble, trustful child - *Ps 32:8; Micah 7:7; Prov 3:5,6; 16:9.*

PRE-REQUISITES

Be surrendered to do whatever the Lord tells you - *Rom 12:1.*

Be separated from the attractions of the world like the love of money and things, immoral sex and lust after prestige and power. *Rom 12:2; 1 John 2:16; 2 Tim 2:22; Gal 5:24; Luke 14:26.*

Be spiritually renewed in your mind - *Rom 12:2.* God is concerned about your relationship with Him. True guidance is getting closer to the Guide. There is no instant recipe. We grow to know the Lord better as He speaks to us and as we listen to Him and obey Him. Therefore:

- Study the Bible daily, systematically, prayerfully
- Confess sin immediately and do not willfully repeat it - *Prov 28:13; Ps 66:18*
- Ask God to put His desires in your heart - *Phil 2:13; Ps 37:4; Matt 6:33.*

SOME GUIDELINES

1. **Study** the manner in which God has guided His servants both from Scripture eg *Acts 10*, and by reading missionary biographies.
2. **Write down** the decision that has to be made.
3. **List all the points** for and against the particular decision.
4. **Ask the following questions** about each possibility:
 - Is it in line with Biblical precepts and principles? - *Ps 119:112*
 - Did God confirm it through Scripture? - *Ps 119:11,105.* The Holy Spirit will never lead you contrary to God's Word.
 - Do I have a steadily increasing certainty and peace about it? - *Col 3:15; Acts 11:12*
 - Will both the methods and the results bring glory to God? *Eph 1:12*

- Are my spiritually mature leaders/friends positive? *Heb 13:17; Prov 12:15*
- Does it enable me to use and develop my God-given gifts and talents? - *1 Pet 4:10; Rom 12:6-10*
- Do circumstances point in this direction? Be careful to make a spiritually-minded interpretation of circumstances. Remember Satan acts to deter and hinder us from doing God's will. *1 Thess 2:18*

5. **Ask Christian friends** to pray with you for God's mind to be revealed. *Matt 18:20.* God will use others to confirm your guidance but you should also hear from Him directly. It can be dangerous to rely on others to find the will of the Lord for you. *1 Kings 13*
6. **Be secure in Christ.** - *John 15:7,15,16.* With God as a loving Father, His will is the best thing that could happen to you.
7. If you feel inadequate for that to which He is calling you, **remember that His commission carries the guarantee of His enabling.** *Phil 4:13; 1 Cor 1:27-29; 2 Cor 12:10.*
8. **Beware of decisions** made hurriedly and with a turbulent heart.
9. **Wait on Him** for His perfect timing. Often the Lord leads step by step. You need to obey Him first by doing step one and two before He will show you step three.
10. **Beware of misleading.** Often the "good" is the enemy of the "best". Watch for deflection to a less vital target. *Acts 6:1-6; 1 Tim 4:1*
11. **Continue to pray** until God reveals His will. *Ps 34:14; Dan 10:12-14*
12. **Obey Him** when you know what His will is - *1 Sam 15:22; John 15:14* - and step out in faith.

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