



God's Will or My Way

WEEK ONE

What would my future look like if I had no regrets about the choices I've made?

Moments of regret are caused by trading what is best for us for what we want now.

SERIES BIG IDEA:

When I follow God's will, I will have no regrets.

When I choose my way over God's will, it inevitably will lead to regret.

When our ways are not in line with God's will, the end is brokenness or unfulfillment.

To avoid regret, we need to be wise to God's will.

¹⁵ Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.

¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

Ephesians 5:15-17 (NIV)

Understanding God's will keeps me looking up and looking ahead to pursue His plan and purpose for my life.

In order to discover and pursue God's will, most often, I must abandon my way.

SERIES BIG PRAYER:

Father, I want Your will more than I want my way. Show me Your will for today.

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Matthew 6:10 (NIV)

- God's will for me is more fulfilling and life-giving than my ways.
- When I am in God's will today, I will be in God's will tomorrow.

How can we know and understand God's will?

¹ Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:1-2 (NIV)

I must look to scripture to understand God's general will and be led by the Holy Spirit to discover His personal will.

- I will see life through the view of God's love and mercy and His desire for me to be part of His Kingdom family.
- I will daily surrender my selfish ways that do not please God.
- I will transform my thinking by embracing a Christ-centered worldview instead of a cultural worldview.



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God's will never contradicts His scriptural truths.

Biblical truth sometimes makes God's will clear.

Biblical truth always leads us to the wisdom we need to discern God's will.



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TEACHING SUMMARY:

Following God's will doesn't always seem easy. It can put us in uncomfortable situations. It doesn't always make us popular. But it always leads to a life of no regrets.

But in order to follow God's will, we must be able to discern God's will. The question becomes, how do we do that? It takes three things; a shift in vision, a daily choice to surrender, and a dependence on and understanding of the Bible.

We must choose to see life not through our own desires but through the will of God. We have to choose to surrender on a daily basis to follow God's will and way rather than our own. We also have to continually deepen our understanding of scripture so that we can discern God's will for our lives.

God's will for your life will never lead to regrets. But, it is your decision whether to depend upon Him and choose a life without decision-based regrets and a life pointed toward Him.

TALK IT OVER:

Is there an area of your life that is difficult to look past your own desires and depend on Christ?

What would life look like for you if you didn't have to worry about decision-based regret?

Do you believe that God has a plan for you and that His will is best and that if you were to follow him that your life would benefit?

What is one next step you can take today?

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

Day 1) Deuteronomy 32:48-52

Day 2) 2 Matthew 26:39-43

Day 3) 2 Corinthians 3:12-18

Day 4) John 14:15-17, 25-26

Day 5) Galatians 5:16-26

Day 6) Ephesians 2:4-10