



DISCOVERING GOD'S WILL

Strong For Life

THE FOUNDATIONS-FOR-LIFE SERIES
VOLUME 10

The Foundations-For-Life Series by Rachel Burchfield
Written for Texas Bible Institute
An outreach of Burchfield Ministries International, Inc.
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The Foundations-For-Life series was written originally to support young adults in their commitment to follow Jesus Christ. The first workbook, *The Adventures of Following Jesus*, was written in 1994 exclusively for the students of Texas Bible Institute. Each of the remaining nine workbooks also teach timeless truths and provide answers found in God's Word, the Holy Bible. TBI is an outreach of Burchfield Ministries International, Inc. in Columbus, Texas.

After thirty years of serving as TBI's President, Rachel Burchfield revised her time-proven Foundations-For-Life series to equip all ages. Teens and adults can now become Strong In Life through TBI's Distance Learning Program, while the On Campus option still remains an option exclusively for those 17 - 25 years of age.

The overall objective of the Foundations-For-Life series is to:

- Make unshakeable disciples for Jesus Christ
- Create a love for the inspired Word of God
- Introduce the adventures of being a bold, Bible believer

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Statement of Faith

Burchfield Ministries International, Inc. believes in the inspiration of Scripture which reveals the Fatherhood of a Creator God, eternal life found only in His Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in every believer for guidance, comfort and strength. To review BMI's complete Statement of Faith, visit burchfield.org.

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

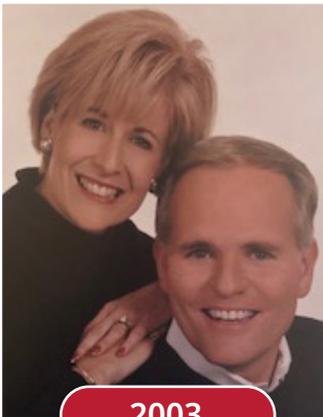


1983

*Dear Sons and Daughters,
Welcome to the great adventure of following Jesus Christ!*

We are proud that you have chosen to build your life on God's unchanging Word. The decisions you are making during these treasured TBI months will determine the course of your life, family, and future legacy. Pastor Tommy and I both made those same choices fifty years ago!

This "Foundations-For-Life" curriculum was written exclusively for our dear Texas Bible Institute students. Thousands of TBI Alumni from thirty-nine states and forty-one nations are now "Strong For Life" and fulfilling God's purpose for their lives. Now, it's your turn!



2003

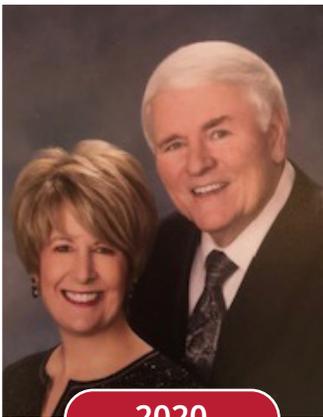
Building strong foundations occurs when you accept the inspired Word of God as the final authority in your life. Once you learn that the Bible is a living love letter from your Father, it will become a joy. Settle it forever that God is good, His ways are perfect, and miracles still happen.

So, dear one, read and re-read this workbook until you've "made it your own." As you mature in Christ, these writings will serve as reference manuals for your own miracle moments, and you'll be Strong For Life.

In His Joy,

Pastors Tommy and Rachel Burchfield

Founder and President, Texas Bible Institute



2020

*"For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid,
which is Jesus Christ." I Cor. 3:11*

WHAT WE BELIEVE

GOD IS
OUR FATHER



As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him.

Psalm 103:13

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort...

II Corinthians 1:3

JESUS CHRIST IS
OUR SAVIOR



For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. *John 14:6*

THE HOLY SPIRIT
EQUIPS BELIEVERS



However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth. *John 16:13*

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be witnesses to Me ...to the end of the earth. *Acts 1:8*

THE HOLY BIBLE
CAN BE TRUSTED



Jesus said, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away." *Matthew 24:35*

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. *II Timothy 3:16*

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*In everything give thanks;
for this is the will of God in
Christ Jesus for you. 1 Th. 5:18*

Chapter 1

WHAT IS THE WILL OF GOD?

Discovering God's will is not as difficult as we make it out to be. It's not a top secret *mystery* that needs to be decoded. It's a *relationship* that needs to be *developed*.



YOUR WORD IS TRUTH JN. 17:17

PSALM 119:68

You are good, and do good; teach me Your statutes.

EPHESIANS 5:17

Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

PSALM 37:5

Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass.

Start Here... What does the Word say?

WELCOME TO THE ADVENTURES OF DISCOVERING THE WILL OF GOD!

Where a teenage unwed mother believes the promise of an angel and gives birth to a baby in a manger.

The Virgin Mary

3 B.C

Where a Presbyterian preacher's kid becomes President of the United States and keeps Deuteronomy 33:25 over his bed for strength.

Grover Cleveland

1885

Where a prolific writer postpones her personal goals and resolves her "settled purpose" is to compile her famous husband's sermons.

Susannah Spurgeon, Wife to Charles

1892

Where a young couple has a dream to build "a headquarters of faith for the youth of the world" and watches half-a-million kids attend camp and 41 nations attend TBI.

Tommy and Rachel Burchfield

1989

Where an obese, uneducated shoe salesman becomes the most influential evangelist of the 19th century.

D.L. Moody

1860

Where a famous athlete, the "Michael Jordan of cricket," inherits twenty-five million dollars and gives it all away, joining Hudson Taylor in his mission to China.

Charles Studd

1887

Where a farmer wakes up from a dream to invent a plow that makes millions of dollars to be funneled into God's work on the earth.

Henry Krause

1939

Where an NFL quarterback writes John 3:16 under his eyes and 91 million people google it.

Tim Tebow

2009

Where an ordinary person musters up the courage to trust their life to an extraordinary God, and they begin an adventure that few dare to live.

(You!)

WHAT IS THE WILL OF GOD?

Discovering God's will is a key element in your Christian journey. Perhaps you are asking, "What is God's will for my life?" That's the wrong question! The correct question is, "What Is God's Will?" When the Bible mentions the will of God, it is referring to His desire, His heart, or His plan. He has a desire and a plan for His children just as earthly fathers do. You can be assured that it is a good plan, because He is a good God.

To understand God's will, you can actually use the father-child model as an example. An earthly father wants his child to be loved and protected and grow into a life of purpose and responsibility. That's your Heavenly Father's will, too.

GREEK WORDS EXPOUND MEANING

There are two different Greek words in the New Testament referring to "will":

- 01 **Thele' ma:** a noun that means will, wish, desire
Strong's Concordance - #2307 thele'ma (from #2309/ thelo) - often refers to God's preferred will; i.e. His "best offer" to people that can be accepted or rejected.

- 02 **Boule:** a noun that gives inference to His sovereign plan; a resolved plan, the counsel of God, the arranging of all physical circumstances to His eternal purpose.
Strong's Concordance - #1012 - He is the Lord of history, and everything fits into His purpose.

Both Greek words encompass ideas such as the counsel of God, the plan of God, the decrees of God, or the disposition or attitude of God.

The will of God is the heart (*the desire, the plan, the counsel, and decrees*) of God.

The will of God refers to what God wants. There's nothing hard about that!

Who Is God?

Noah experienced
God as a Covenant
Maker and built an ark.
Read *Gen. 6:1-22*

7 MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE WILL OF GOD



God's will is going to make you _____.
(missionary, marry ugly girl, etc.)

"Jesus said, 'I have come that they have a rich and satisfying life.'" Jn. 10:10NLT

God's will is an endless checklist of unobtainable _____.

"...He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy, He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit." Tit. 3:5NLT

God's will is a _____.

"[For my determined purpose is] to know Him..." Ph. 3:10 AMPC

God's will is a geographical _____.

"..... do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you..." I Cor. 6:19

God's will is a _____.

"Instead, he gave up His divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was both as a human being." Ph. 2: 7-8

God's will is a specific _____.

"But let him who glories glory in this: that he understands and knows Me [personally and practically, directly discerning and recognizing My character,] that I am the LORD..." Jer. 9:24 AMPC

God's will is always _____.

"Endure hardness as a good soldier." II Tim. 2:3

THE WILL OF GOD IS THREE-FOLD

Theologians have many terms for the various types of God's will, such as, the decreed will, perceptive will, desiderative will, permissive will, directive will, sovereign will, moral will, individual will. People! Life shouldn't be so complicated. Here's how Holy Spirit taught me personally.

01.



The **PERFECT WILL** of God is to know Him. It occurs instantaneously when you become his child and your heart says, "Father, love You."

02.



The **PROGRESSIVE WILL** of God is to make Him known. It unfolds throughout your life as you frequently say, "I trust You, Father."

03.



The **SOVEREIGN WILL** of God is His predetermined, unstoppable, master plan for the universe which reflects His goodness. It's going to occur regardless of what your heart is saying.

The Christian life is a daily discovery of what it means to know God as your Father.

You probably know adults who do not enjoy rich fellowship with their parents. Although they are in a familial relationship, their fellowship does not go beyond the obligatory holiday events. They are in a relationship, but they are not in fellowship.

Our Father God has a lot of those type of kids, too. They share the family name, but not the Father's heart. Will they go to heaven? Yes, but they are missing out of the joys of knowing the Father.

What is the Will of God?

- 01 The will of God is the heart of God.
- 02 The will of God is a relationship between you and God, as your Father.
- 03 The will of God is three-fold: perfect, progressive, sovereign.
- 04 To understand God's will, we can look to a father-child model.

*Everything begins and ends with the Father's love.
- Rachel Burchfield*



Supporting Scriptures

Ps. 37:5

Ps. 40:8

Ps. 119:68

Ps. 143:10

Mt. 7:21

Jn. 6:40

Eph. 5:17

Col. 1:9

Keepin' It Real

The will of God is a topic that:

- _____ Frightens you. (What if He makes you be a missionary?)
- _____ Confuses you. (Too many options.)
- _____ Excites you. (His plan is always the best, even if it's different from yours.)
- _____ Bores you. (You've got your own plans.)

When I hear the phrase, "Surrender your life to the will of God," I imagine:

 Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God. *Ps. 143:10*

Reflection



SEARCH

Read and highlight these "God's Will" prayers. *Ps. 40:8, Ps. 143:10, Col. 1:9*

Chapter 2

IS THERE A PERFECT WILL OF GOD?

Yes! And if you are born again, you're already in it. *Did you know* that 90% of God's will for your life is the same for everyone? It's to know *God as Father* and obey His Word. It is first a *heart attitude*, not an assignment.



YOUR WORD IS TRUTH JN. 17:17

MATTHEW 6:33

Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

EPHESIANS 1:5

Having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will.

1 JOHN 2:17

And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

*"Put the Word in you when you don't need it, and it will be there for you when you do need it."
- Tommy Burchfield*

IS THERE A PERFECT WILL OF GOD?

An elderly woman returned from an Alaskan cruise and was sharing a plethora of photos with us. "It probably wasn't God's perfect will for us," she said apologetically, "but we really needed some down time." Then she added this disclaimer, "And we did tell a waiter from Bulgaria about Jesus." Bless her heart. She lacks some basic understanding of the perfect will of God. The Lord is eager to share the beauty of His creation with His children. In fact, He created it for her.

WHAT THE PERFECT WILL IS NOT



It is not a place.
(Harvard or Baylor?)

It is not a position.
(Pilot or policeman?)

It is not a person.
(Marry Julie or Emily?)

It is not a tiny dot
somewhere in the universe.

A HOPELESS LOT

Some of you have been fearful that you are going to miss the perfect will of God. Here's an extreme version often taught by well-meaning people about the "Perfect Will Of God":

Imagine that the "perfect will of God" is as a dot; a very tiny, very specific dot. You'll need to search for that dot in all of your life choices; your career, your spouse, everything. Not only are you about to be dispatched on the ultimate goose chase to discover God's "perfect will", but what if you make a bad choice? You will then live your life in God's "permissive, 2nd class status" and feel guilty about it forever.

So sadly now, I'm off the dot.

I missed my chance, I lost the spot.

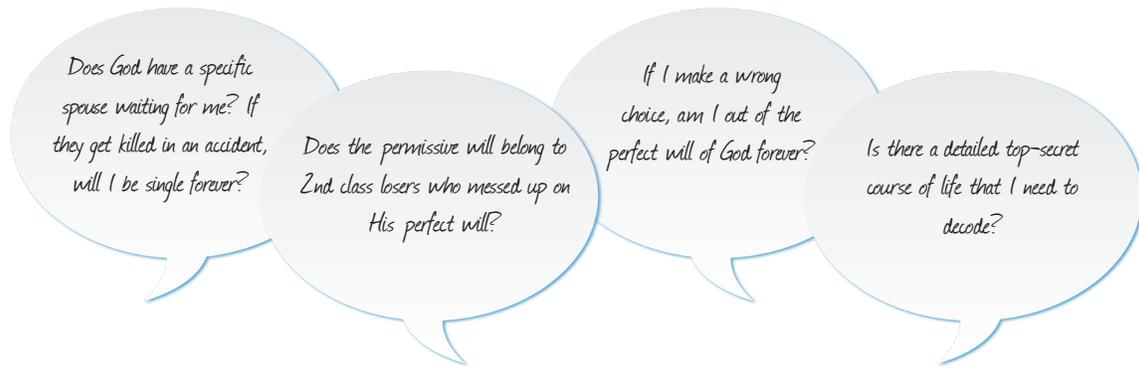
My life stuck, pathetic lot.

Forever ruined! That's what I was taught.

Thankfully, God doesn't want you to live on a wild goose chase looking for that "perfect will" dot.

RETHINKING THE PERFECT VS. PERMISSIVE WILL CONCEPT

If you've been born again for a while, you've probably been annoyed by these questions:



If you swallow these worries, you are forgetting that **God is your Father** who is leading you each day. We must not believe that the Billy Grahams and Amy Carmichaels of the world were the only type of people who found and stayed on their designated dot, and the rest of us are losers whose one selfish choice made our dot disappear. **No. No. No.**

IS THE PERMISSIVE WILL CONCEPT IN THE BIBLE?

There are many well-meaning Bible teachers who refer to Romans 12:2 as the basis to teach a three-tier will of God as good, acceptable, or perfect (aka perfect vs. permissive).

Romans 12:2:

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that _____ and _____ and _____ will of God. Rom. 12:2

"Believing in a permissive will of God places man as sovereign while God scrambles for a Plan B. God is not as a helpless Father who, having done all He can do, must now sit back and simply hope for the best. What a ghastly view of our omnipotent God!"

- R.C. Sproul

LET'S READ IT IN THE NEW LIVING TRANSLATION:

"... let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect." *Rom. 12:2 NLT*

Good, Acceptable, and Perfect Will?

- *Rom. 12:2* - Perfect = *Teleion, Gr., meaning complete, healthy, or mature*
- Not three different options, but three descriptions of the same thing
- I.e., Not a pizza, sausage, and cheese, but a sausage pizza with extra cheese

The Bible does seem to infer that a permissive plan occurs, but it refers to negative events that God allows for a higher purpose. For example, God allowed (permitted) Joseph's brothers to betray him and deceive their father, so that He could fulfill His earlier promise to Abraham and bring the Israelites to Egypt.



Highlight these scriptures about the good pleasure, mystery, and counsel of His will: *Eph. 1:5, Eph. 1:9, Eph. 1:11*

GOOD NEWS ABOUT THE PERFECT WILL OF GOD

- Relax. If you're in His family, then you are in His will.
- Defined by your status as a son, not your service as a servant. (in God's family)
- 90% of God's will is the same for everyone; love God, love people, forgive, serve, etc.
- Don't stress over the 10% job description.
- God's perfect will is a playing field, not a tightrope.

Clarity will come when you start replacing the term "perfect will of God" with the "Family of God."

TRUE OR FALSE

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Pastors are God's favorite people. | T | F |
| 2. Behavior is more important than a belief system. | T | F |
| 3. An evangelist shouldn't quit preaching and get a secular job. | T | F |
| 4. God's perfect will is determined by status, not service. | T | F |
| 5. Christians don't need to worry about missing God's will any more than they worry over their dad kicking them out of the family. | T | F |
| 6. Bad choices can limit your eternal rewards, but not eternal life. | T | F |
| 7. A 30 day sabbatical could be more spiritual than a crusade. | T | F |

Who Is God?

Abram experienced God as God- Who- Provides and was trusted with a faith-famous legacy.

Read *Gen. 22:1-18*

ABRAM - A CASE STUDY

Abram's multiple God encounters unveil God's progressive will.

God's perfect will for Abram was to know Him, so every recorded encounter is significant. As a result of knowing Him, however, a progressive plan unfolded that changed the world. List who Abram had encounters with and what occurred. Notice the distinction between the LORD or the Lord.

TBI Challenge: Read Abraham's story from Genesis Ch.12-25 in a Bible paraphrase such as the New Living Translation (NLT) or The Living Bible (TLB).

WHERE	WHO	WHAT
Gen. 12:1		
Gen. 12:7		
Gen. 12:8		
Gen. 13:14-18		
Gen. 13:18		
Gen. 15:1-2		
Gen. 15:4		
Gen. 15:5-18		
Gen. 17:1		
Gen. 18:1		
Gen. 18:17		
Gen. 22:1		
Gen. 22:14-18		

It was Abraham's multiple encounters with the Lord which gave him the courage and guidance to allow God's progressive will to unfold. Had he not taken time to frequently meet with God, he would have become a nomadic, old shepherd with a bitter, unfulfilled wife. Their faith in God changed the world.

The permissive will are those events that God allows into our lives which He uses to accomplish His divine purpose of knowing Him. It is the testing He allows (permits) to reveal His true sons and daughters.

- Oswald Chambers

Is There a Perfect Will of God?

- 01 The perfect will of God is to be God's child.
- 02 Ninety percent of God's will is the same for everyone.
- 03 The perfect will of God is fulfilled in your status as a son, not your service as a servant.
- 04 The permissive will are the trials that God allows for spiritual growth, not the result of what His disobedient child chooses.

The will of God is not about God getting on our program, but about us getting on His program.



Supporting Scriptures

Ps. 139:17-18

Mt. 6:33

Rom. 5:8

Rom. 12:2

Eph. 1:5

Eph. 1:5-11

I Jn. 2:17

I Jn. 3:1

A Fun and Faithful Father

By Rachel Burchfield

There once was a loving father quite eager to meet his newborn son. Before the baby was even born, he had made provisions for him: a home, food, a crib, and toys. As the child grew, his father gave him bigger toys, a tricycle, and a huge backyard. Seeing his dad dressed for work, the child said, "Daddy, what should I do today?" The loving father replied, "Just enjoy your toys and big backyard, and I'll see you tonight." This dialogue occurred often.

As the boy became a teenager, however, his father's reply changed. "Enjoy your car, mow the grass, and get along with your brothers and sisters." As the teen became a young adult, the father said, "Son, you've been such a joy to me. I'd like to invite you to be a co-owner of our family business. As the years turned into decades, the father and son enjoyed their time together; sometimes working, sometimes playing, sometimes praying, because that's what sons who have a great father do.



See how very much our Father loves us, for He calls us His children, and that is what we are! *1 Jn. 3:1 NLT*

REFLECTION



SEARCH

Read these scriptures that remind you of God's great love for you.

Ps. 139:17-18, Rom. 5:8, 1

Jn. 3:1, 1 Jn. 4:19

Chapter 3

DISCOVERING ~~THE WILL OF~~ GOD

People who pursue knowing *God as their Father* are totally secure, *fully satisfied*, and content through *every season of life*; whether a CEO to hundreds or a caregiver to one.



YOUR WORD IS TRUTH JN. 17:17

EXODUS. 34:6

And the Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth."

I CORINTHIANS. 1:9

God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

PHILIPPIANS 3:10

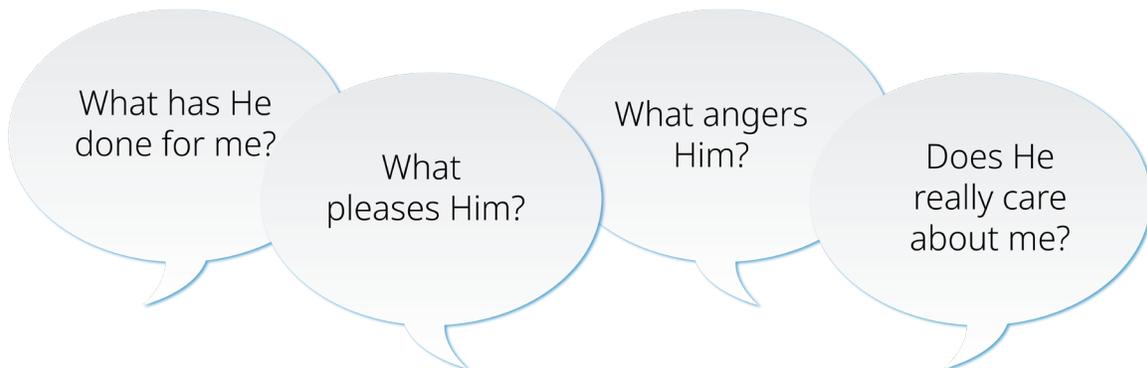
...that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death...

*The Bible is a Love Letter
from your Father.*

DISCOVERING ~~THE WILL OF~~ GOD

A story is told of a name dropper in an elite office in New York City. After naming all the important people he knew, a temp girl smugly replied, "That's awesome. I know the One who created them."

WHO IS HE?



THREE BENEFITS OF KNOWING GOD

1. Knowing Him releases _____
 - A crumpled \$100 bill hasn't lost its value. Study your Father's relentless love.
2. Knowing Him makes you _____
 - Everything's going to be okay, even when everything's not okay.
3. Knowing Him brings _____
 - People who know Him are content through every season of life; whether a CEO to hundreds or a caregiver to one.

AMBITIONS CHANGE

The Apostle Paul, who had the equivalent of three doctoral degrees, made knowing Him his life goal. None of the clout he had as a respected Pharisee compared. He said, *"How changed are my ambitions! Now I long to know Christ..." Ph. 3:10 Phillips*

Sooooo....how exactly do you get to know God?

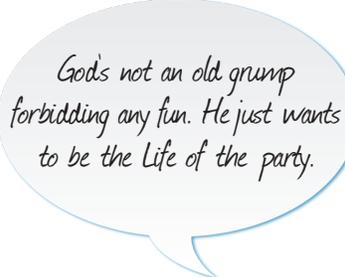
Let the adventure begin!

DESCRIBE YOURSELF

(Circle the seven attributes that best describe you.)

Confident	Curious	Ambitious	Loyal
Arrogant	Bossy	Rude	Selfish
Empathetic	Sincere	Punctual	Trustworthy
Cynical	Compulsive	Moody	Irresponsible
Optimistic	Courageous	Intelligent	Creative

DISCOVER GOD TWO WAYS



*God's not an old grump
forbidding any fun. He just wants
to be the Life of the party.*

You can begin your discovery of God by studying the two ways He introduces Himself to His children.

As you spend time meditating on these lists, an awareness of His fulfilling, addicting majesty will emerge.

01. GOD INTRODUCES HIMSELF THROUGH HIS ATTRIBUTES

*"And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding goodness and truth."
Ex. 34:6*

We discover who God is as we worship His attributes. In Exodus 34:6, God describes Himself! This magnificent list of the **seven attributes of God** serves as a foundation of biblical theology and is repeated eight times in the Old Testament.

- The LORD - YHWH, I AM - His eternal existence, a covenant God
- The LORD God - Adonai; Lord and Master
- Merciful
- Gracious
- Longsuffering
- Abounding in truth
- Abounding in goodness

02. GOD REVEALS HIMSELF THROUGH HIS COMPOUND NAMES

Old Testament names were used, not only for identification, but also as a description. If you were going to be introduced today to the compound names of a man named Jim, it would look like this: Jim-Son, Jim-Friend, Jim-Husband, Jim-Little League Coach, Jim-Employer, Jim-Granddad. Did you notice how the names reflect a growing relationship?

Through God's compound names, He invites you into a redemptive relationship with Him; a glimpse-by-glimpse unveiling of His nature and personality.



Highlight God's descriptions in your own Bible, and fill in the blanks in the spaces below.

Here are a few:

Jehovah-Elohim - The Lord, our _____ Gen. 2:4

Jehovah-Nissi - The Lord, my _____ Ex. 17:15

Jehovah-Raah - The Lord, my shepherd _____ Ps. 23:1

Jehovah-Rapha - The Lord that _____ Ex. 15:26

Jehovah-Shammah - The Lord is _____ Ex. 48:35

Jehovah-Tsidkenu - The Lord our _____ Jer. 23:6

Jehovah-Mekoddishkem - The Lord, our _____ Ex. 31:13

Jehovah-Jireh - The Lord will _____ Gen. 22:14

Jehovah-Shalom - The Lord is _____ Jdg. 6:24

Who is God?

Moses
experienced
God as Redeemer
and rescued Israel
from slavery.
Read Ex. 12:1-40.

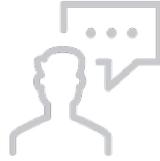
You Can Know Him as Father



He is your Source of life.
Jn. 3:3

He provides for your
needs. *Mt. 6:26*

You Can Know Him as Friend



Sharing intimate
thoughts without any
concern of rejection.

Two-sided: What's
important to you is
important to me.

You Can Partner With God



God is sending you an
invitation. "God is faithful
by whom you are called
unto the fellowship of His
Son Jesus Christ, our Lord."
I Cor. 1:9

Notice the variety of meanings from these four translations of I Corinthians 1:9.

- NKJV - fellowship
- AMPC - participation
- New Living Translation - partnership
- The Message - shares with us

**Does God have a plan and purpose for your life?
Yes, but it does not compare to the Person behind it.**

A RADICAL CONCEPT

Jesus came to introduce the concept of God as our Father. In the gospel of John, He referred to God as 'Father' 108 times. Here are a few examples.

"For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me." John 6:38

"I do exactly as the Father commanded Me." John 14:31

"Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner. John 5:19

*"Thou madest us for Thyself and
our heart is restless until it rests in Thee. "*

- St. Augustine

Discovering ~~the Will of~~ God

- 01 In the Old Testament, the two ways we can discover God are through His attributes and His compound names.
- 02 Jesus expanded our God-discovery in the New Testament by introducing Him as our Father.
- 03 People whose primary life goal is to know God are secure and content in every season of their lives.
- 04 To know God's heart is to know His will.

*Discovering God's Will
= Discovering God*



Supporting Scriptures

Ex. 34:6

Ps. 68:5

Jn. 3:3

Jn. 16:27

Rom. 5:8

I Cor. 1:9

II Cor. 1:3

Ph. 3:10

Discovering God As Father

1. Rate your relationship with your earthly father? (1 to 10) _____
2. How does this affect your relationship with your Heavenly Father?

3. Circle the words that a good father provides:

- Security
- Protection
- Unconditional Love
- Listener
- Special trips
- Unique adventures
- Answers
- Guidance
- Provision
- Courage
- Kind Correction
- Forgiveness
- Maturity-based boundaries
- A better-than-expected inheritance



Blessed be ... the Father of mercies and God of all comfort..." II Cor. 1:3

Reflection



SEARCH

Read and highlight these scriptures about your Father God:

Ps. 68:5, Jn. 16:27,
II Cor. 1:3

Chapter 4

GOD'S WILL IS HIS WORD

Love Himself *invited you* into His family and you said, "Yes!" In the courtroom of heaven, the split second you became His child, your *name was included* into the Father's will. So, dear one, read the will. *Quit praying* for what you already have! *Quit waiting* for an angel to tell you what to do! *Do the Word!*



YOUR WORD IS TRUTH JN. 17:17

PSALMS 40:8

I delight to do Your will, O my God, And Your law is within my heart.

MATTHEW 6:10

Your kingdom come. Your will (*word*)* be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

1 JOHN 5:14

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, (*His word*)* He hears us.

*God's Word in your mouth releases
God's power in your life.*

*Italics by author

GOD'S WILL IS HIS WORD

Do you have a will? God does! His will is the Holy Bible, and it has many legal terms scattered throughout it. For example, redemption and ransom are legal terms, and Jesus is our Advocate who gave us power of attorney. There is always a judge and court of law that stands behind a will.

A WILL IS A LEGAL DOCUMENT

01. **A Last Will and Testament** is a written, legal document created to assure the testator that his/her assets will be distributed according to his desires upon death.

Also known as a _____.

02. **Definitions**

_____ The person who makes the will

_____ The person who carries out the testator's wishes

_____ The person to whom a gift is left

03. **Two Types Of Gifts**

 **Gifts of love**
(ie., Grandma's vase)

 **Gifts with responsibility**
(ie., title to the family business)

THAT'S BILLION WITH A B!

Perhaps you might have a mysterious, wealthy relative? Brothers Zsolt and Geza Peladi were penniless and living in a cave near Budapest when they learned they had inherited a fortune from their grandmother. The siblings were located by charity workers and put in touch with the attorneys who told them that they had inherited six billion dollars. Yes, that's billion with a "b." Geza said, "We knew our mother came from a wealthy family, but she was a difficult person and severed ties with them, and then later abandoned us." They were heirs of a wealthy family, yet living in a cave.

There are many amazing inheritance stories to enjoy, but none as wonderful as the inheritance you have in Jesus Christ. When you got born again, you were included in a will, too!

Who Is God?
Nehemiah experienced God as a Restorer and left a prestigious position to rebuild the city wall.

Read *Neh. 2:11-18*.

God's revelation becomes man's invitation.

THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF FREDERICK ISSAC WIGGINS

Grandpa Fred's Last Will and Testament contained his written desires for each of his family members.

JONATHAN

Hamilton watch
(gift of love)



JEREMY

Silver cufflinks
(gift of love)



JASON

Wedding ring
(gift of love)



JACKSON

Deed to Farm
(gift with responsibility)



Last Will and Testament

THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF JESUS CHRIST

Jesus died and left a will, too!

When He completed His earth assignment, God did two important things towards His Son:

- God appointed Jesus heir of all things. *Heb. 1:2*
- God gave Him a name above every name. *Heb. 1:4, Ph. 2:9*

The New Testament is a legal document sealed with the blood of Jesus.

JESUS SHARES HIS INHERITANCE

Romans 8:17 describes the child of God in two legal terms:

- Heir of God
- Joint-Heir with Christ

If you are a joint-heir with Christ, what exactly did you inherit?

- The Kingdom of God *Mat. 25:34*
- Power of attorney to use the name of Jesus *Jn. 16:23*
- The promises of God *II Pt. 1:3-4*
- An incorruptible inheritance reserved in heaven *I Pt. 1:3-4*
- Gifts of love (ie, salvation, healing, wisdom, guidance...)
- Gifts with responsibility (ie, His name, His church mandate ...)

The _____ is God's Last Will and Testament for His family.

GOOD NEWS! YOUR NAME IS IN HIS WILL!

When you accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior, you joined God's family. You became one of His children, and you received the same rights and privileges that Jesus has. Your name is included in His "Jesus Joint-Heir Package," but an inheritance has no value unless it is known and acted on. Read these scriptures to see what you've inherited from your Father!



Highlight these truths about being a joint-heir with Jesus in your own Bible.

Acts 20:32, Col. 1:18, Rom. 8:16-17, Heb. 1:2, Heb. 1:4, Ph. 2:9

Mix and Match

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| _____ Eternal Life | A. John 10:4 |
| _____ Emotional healing | B. II Corinthians 9:8 |
| _____ Peace | C. Isaiah 53:5 |
| _____ Provision | D. John 16:33 |
| _____ Courage | E. Psalm 147:3 |
| _____ Guidance | F. I John 5:13 |
| _____ Healing | G. Isaiah 41:10 |
| _____ Hearing God's voice | H. Psalm 32:8 |
| _____ Purpose | I. Philippians 4:19 |
| _____ Sustaining grace | J. Philippians 2:13 |

QUOTABLES:

The Word of God is your direct link to your inheritance as a joint-heir with Christ.

God sent His Son, but He left His book.

God's Word is His will. God's will is His Word.

God is not hiding His will. It is written in His Word.

QUIT PRAYING THIS PRAYER

If you desire to enjoy the benefits of the will, please quit praying "If it be Thy will." This disastrous phrase instantly negates faith and floods the soul with doubt. You might say, "But didn't Jesus pray that prayer in the Garden of Gethsemene?" Yes, but it was a prayer of consecration regarding His journey to Calvary. It's biblical to pray, "Lord, if it be Thy will, I'll move to Kentucky or begin a new business. That's a sincere prayer of consecration, but you don't need to pray for what God has already promised in His Word. People who haven't made the distinction between a prayer of consecration and a prayer of faith have no confidence in their prayer. During the entire prayer, there are whispers in their head, "What if this isn't God's will?" No! As a child of God, you can pray with confidence.

PRAY WITH CONFIDENCE

What confidence can you have in prayer? Let's read out loud the Amplified translation of I John 5:14 which says,

And this is the confidence (the assurance, the privilege of boldness) which we have in Him: [we are sure] that if we ask anything (make any request) according to His will (in agreement with His own plan), He listens to and hears us. I John 5:14

What a promise! Ask anything! Make any request! If it's "according to His will," as we say in Texas, it's a done deal. You can interchange "will" for "Word" and gain a clearer meaning. You might say, "Well, what's in His will?" I would answer that question by asking you, "What's in His Word?" Forgiveness is in His will. Eternal life is in His will. Peace and prosperity are in His will. Hope and healing are in His will. Jesus told us to, "Search the Scriptures." The more you search, the deeper that treasure box gets.

As the children's song says,

Every promise in the book is mine
Every chapter, every verse and every line
All are blessings of His love divine
Every promise in the book is mine

When you know what the Word says, you will know what His will is.

God's Will is His Word

01

Every child of God has been included in the Father's will.

02

God is not hiding His will.
It is written in His Word.

03

The New Testament is God's will for His family, the Church.

04

The will of God is doing the Word of God.

05

God's will is His Word.
God's Word is His will.

Becoming a child of God places you in the Father's will.



Supporting Scriptures

Ps. 119:89

Is. 55:11

Mat. 25:34

I Jn. 5:14

Jn. 16:23

Acts 20:32

Ph. 2:9

Heb. 1:2-4

Chapter 5

JESUS WAS THE MODEL OF GOD'S WILL

"Alyssa, what are you drawing?" asked her kind Daddy. "I'm drawing a *picture of God*," replied the precocious *five-year-old*. "Honey, *no one knows* what God looks like," he said. She smiled, "*They will when I get finished.*"



YOUR WORD IS TRUTH JN. 17:17

COLOSSIANS 1:15

He is the image of the invisible God...

ACTS 10:38

...how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

HEBREWS 1:3

...who is the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power...

*Build your life on the unchanging
Word of God.*

JESUS WAS THE MODEL OF GOD'S WILL

Texans have their own language. Funny expressions such as, "He's the spittin' image of his dad," are common. Jesus was also the spittin' image of His Father; in fact, Jesus was both God and man.

IF YOU WANT TO SEE GOD, LOOK AT JESUS

Jesus came to reveal the Father's heart. Jesus said to Phillip, "He who has seen Me has seen the Father..." *Jn. 14:9*

Did Jesus love everybody? Absolutely, yes, but He did respond differently to certain categories of people. What can we learn about God's will (heart) from this?

WHAT IS GOD'S WILL REGARDING PEOPLE? LOOK AT JESUS.

Children - Jesus welcomed children! Do you? Do they get in your way? God's will is for a child to feel loved, valuable and welcomed, never an interruption or a bother. *Mk. 10:13-16*

Religious Leaders - Jesus rebuked them! He reprimanded religious people often because their rigid rules misrepresented His Father. *Mt. 23:27*

Government Leaders - Jesus ignored the Roman occupation politically because the kingdom He spoke of was an invisible kingdom. The exception was the faith-filled centurion. *Mk. 8:5*

Relatives - Jesus' last act of love while on the cross was to assign the care of his mother to John, and His unbelieving brothers became gospel preachers and eventually martyrs. *Jn. 19:27*

Outcasts - Jesus loved them. Every society has marginalized groups. Today it might be immigrants, refugees, the elderly, or those with mental or physical challenges.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son... If He had a Son, then He must be a Father."

- Tommy Burchfield

WHAT IS GOD'S WILL REGARDING HEALING?

Look at Jesus.

Q: How many healings by Jesus are recorded?

A: Twenty-six of the thirty-six recorded miracles were healings and/or deliverances.

Q: Can we be sure that it is always God's will to heal?

A: Yes! Jesus was God, and He never turned away anyone who asked for a miracle.

Q: Does God send sickness to teach people a lesson?

A: No! What earthly father would give his three-year-old leukemia? God will use all experiences to draw people closer to Him, but sickness doesn't come from our good Father God.

Q: Why did Jesus pray, "If it be Thy will?" Is that for a healing prayer?

A: No. This is a prayer of consecration during times when the will of the Father is unknown or unpleasant, but not a prayer for topics where God's Word is clear, such as salvation, healing, provision, etc. Read Luke 5:12.

Q: Did Jesus pray for people or did He command the sickness to go?

A: Jesus spoke to the sickness or demon and commanded it to leave.

Q: Does Jesus still heal today?

A: Yes! He heals through the Word's healing promises, the laying on of hands, the Gift of Healing, medicine and surgery. All healing is divine. Read Heb. 13:8.



Highlight these healing scriptures and learn to command sickness to go in Jesus' name. *Ex. 15:26, Ps. 103:3, Is. 53:3-5, Mt. 8:17, Mk. 16:18, Gal. 3:13, I Pt. 2:24, Jms. 5:14*

*If you don't believe it's God's will to heal you,
then making a doctor's appointment is a sin.*

WHAT IS GOD'S WILL REGARDING THE 4-P'S?

Look at Jesus.

A spiritual mentor taught us to read something from the gospels everyday until we had memorized Jesus' actions and reactions towards daily life events. Great advice!

01. **Priorities:** Jesus knew His purpose was to reveal the Father's love, introduce an invisible kingdom concept, and make disciples. God's will is the same for us.
02. **Prayer:** The disciples asked Jesus, "Teach us to pray," (not preach) so His prayer life must have impressed them. Jesus' lifestyle of prayer reveals God's will for us, too.
03. **Problems:** In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus mentioned worrying ten times. Jesus never worried because He was confident His Father was in control. That's God's will for you, too.
04. **Provision:** Jesus provided bread and fish for thousands and helped Peter pay his taxes with a gold coin in a fish's mouth. God's will is to trust Him to do the same for you.

Jesus came to reveal the Father's heart.

*"If you do what **Jesus** did, you will see what **Jesus** saw."*

WHAT IS GOD'S WILL REGARDING DEMONIC BONDAGE?

Look at Jesus.

The quick lesson here is that Jesus wants you free! By both His words and demonstrations, Jesus made it abundantly clear that God, His Father, sent Him to set the captives free. Old Testament prophecies, such as Isaiah 61:3, described the Messiah as One who would "heal the brokenhearted, proclaim liberty to the captives and the opening of the prison to those who are bound."

Jesus was a bold ambassador for His Father. He came to destroy the works of the devil. He demonstrated power over demons and then told His disciples, "Alright, boys, now it's your turn."

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. *Acts 10:38*

Ambassador, defined: A respected official acting as a representative of a nation and has the complete strength of that nation to support his decisions. *II Cor. 5:18-20* - That's you!

Who is God?
Mary Magdalene
experienced
God as a Mighty
Deliverer and
surrendered her life to
Jesus.
Read *Lk. 8:2, 24:10*

FOUR DESCRIPTIONS OF JESUS AND HIS AMBASSADORS (YOU)

HOW GOD _____ JESUS OF NAZARETH WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND WITH POWER,
WHO WENT ABOUT _____ AND HEALING _____ WHO
WERE _____ BY THE DEVIL, FOR GOD WAS _____ HIM."

ACTS 10:38

IT'S YOUR TURN

Jesus said,

*"Go into all the world and **preach the Good News** to everyone...
These miraculous sign will accompany those who believe: They
will **cast out demons** in my name, and they will **speak in new
languages...** They will be able to place their hands on the sick,
and they **will be healed.**" Mk. 16:15-19 NLT*

THREE LEVELS OF DEVILS

Don't get fooled into believing the devil is a red cartoon character with a pitchfork. His strategy to defeat you is real, and it happens in three stages:

1. Depression

2. Oppression

3. Possession

Christians cannot be possessed, but oppression can be debilitating. Rise up! There is no need to fear. You have the Name of Jesus on your lips, the Holy Spirit inside, and God's Word in your mouth. You can do this!

Real People, Real Miracles

- Healed of Scoliosis - Frances, TBI Alumni,. 2006
- Vocal cord growth vanished - Holly, Discovery Camp, 2009
- Turner's Syndrome baby healed - Anna, 1995
- Delivered from depression - Barbara, National Women's Retreat, 2000
- Severe IBS healed - Jill, Discovery Camp, 2005
- Breast cancer healed - Raquel, National Women's Retreat, 2006
- Ovarian cancer healed 60+ years ago- Ms. Mickie Winborn
- Delivered instantaneously from cocaine - Zac, Youth Fall Retreat, 2017

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Heb. 13:8

Jesus was the Model of God's Will

01

Jesus Christ came to show us the Father's will.

02

We know that healing is always God's will because Jesus healed everyone who came to Him.

03

Jesus' lifestyle of prayer is our example regarding life's problems.

04

Instead of praying for healing or deliverance, Jesus spoke to the sickness or demon power and commanded it to leave.

*As He is, so are we in this world.
1 Jn. 4:17*



Supporting Scriptures

Mt. 10:8

Mt. 23:27

Mk. 10:13-16

Lk. 5:12

Jn. 14:9

Ac. 10:38

Cl. 1:15

Hb. 1:3

Because of the Father's Love...

Write some names that apply

Jesus came to do the Father's will. Is this your goal, too? _____

Jesus made His relationship with His Father a priority through prayer. What time do you talk to your Father? _____

Jesus loved society's outcasts; lepers, widows, etc. Name a friend from some of these marginalized groups: immigrant, LGBT, racial/cultural minorities, elderly, mental illness. Will you let Jesus love someone through you? _____

Jesus loved children. What child do you love? _____

Jesus provided for people's physical needs. Who are you helping? _____

Jesus healed the sick. Who are you praying for? _____

Jesus made disciples. Who are you discipling? _____



Jesus came to introduce the Father's love. Use me, Lord, to do the same.

Reflection



SEARCH

Read these scriptures about God using you to release His love and power to others: Mt. 10:8, Mk. 16:17-20, Acts 20:35

Chapter 6

THE PROGRESSIVE WILL OF GOD

At some point, you're going to pray, "Father, I love You, but I *need some specifics!*" At that point, turn to *Proverbs 16:3* and do it. Then, the next day, do it again. You're about to discover that *God is doing far more* for you that you don't know about than what you do.



YOUR WORD IS TRUTH JN. 17:17

PSALM 37:4

Delight yourself also in the Lord, and
He shall give you the desires of your heart.

PROVERBS 3:4-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean
not on your own understanding; in all your ways
acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

PHILIPPIANS 2:13 NLT

For God is working in you, giving you the desire
and the power to do what pleases Him. *[energizing
and creating in you the power and desire]* AMPC.

*God's Word changes you from the
inside out.*

THE PROGRESSIVE WILL OF GOD

Have you been saying, "I love God, but I need specifics!!" Now that you know God's heart, it's time to show His heart. The progressive will is an unfolding of those specifics. He doesn't reveal everything to you at one time or you might run away.

A PINCH OF GOD'S HEART

Who could contain the loving, huge heart of God? We would explode! To prevent such a conundrum, our wise God does something amazing. He takes a tiny pinch of His heart (with the specific desires and corresponding emotions), and downloads it into whoever is consumed with pleasing Him.

THE 6 P'S OF GOD'S PROGRESSIVE WILL

A pinch of His heart begins pulling you into prayer for a specific thing which prepares you to share His love in that place, and it brings both you and Him great pleasure. How easy is that! A few of the many scriptures that reinforce my divine download theory are *Psalms 34:7, Psalm 37:5, Proverbs 3:4-6, Proverbs 16:3, and Philippians 2:13.*

MY STORY

I saw this in my own life as my teenage heart became consumed with the needs of young people. I hardly knew that anyone over 25 years of age was on the earth. Everything I read, did during free time, or prayed was pulled towards sharing the love and power of Jesus Christ with young people. Even throughout nursing school, my mind was on destiny, not diseases. After forty years, *(including a marriage, 3 kids, a camp, a Bible school, a church, now with grandchildren)* my heart has shifted towards writing and, thus, my time is now spent with a laptop and cup of coffee.

THE DIVINE DOWNLOAD

Read Philippians 2:13 in several translations. It describes this divine download as desire + energy. As you seek His heart, that divine download occurs in the form of a desire. The desire of God starts as a seed, similar to a sperm released into a woman's body, and grows in direct proportion to your spiritual growth.

As our daughter, Abby, explains, "When I was nine years old, I was just worshipping Him at camp and 'Jehovah Sneaky' dropped in my heart the desire to work with children. That desire got stronger and eventually led me to Baylor University. He gave me the energy (strength) to receive a degree in Child and Family Studies."

"JEHOVAH SNEAKY" - THE DIVINE DOWNLOAD

Just as a baby girl grows into womanhood, the progressive will of God naturally unfolds.

GOD'S PERFECT WILL	GOD'S PROGRESSIVE WILL
90% of your focus Your family status To know Him Gives you value Completes you I am loved by God. My adoption What Christ did for me	10% of your focus Your service in the world To represent Him Gives you vision Motivates you I am busy with God. My assignment What I'm doing for Christ

THE P-16 FORMULA

Understanding the progressive will of God is similar to playing the board game checkers with God. If you will make the first move, He will move on your behalf. You move, and He moves. You do your (natural) part, and He will do His (supernatural) part. You can see this pattern in many scriptures previously mentioned, but it is abundantly clear in Proverbs 16:1.



Plan your work.

Prv. 16:1

The preparations of the heart belong to man, But the answer of the tongue is from the Lord.



Work your plan.

Prv. 16:3

Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established.



Trust God with the results.

Prv. 16:9

A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps.

The Amplified Bible describes it even better:

_____ your works upon the Lord [commit and trust them wholly to Him; He will cause your _____ to become agreeable to His will, and] so shall your _____ be established and succeed. *Prv. 16:3 AMPC*

Who is God?
 Ananias experienced God as "Faithful God" when a scary command brought healing to Saul. Read *Acts 9:11-19*

God's revelation becomes man's invitation.

THREE WORDS THAT CHANGE EVERYTHING

Let's focus on three important words that will unlock the progressive will of God for us.

Delight

An attitude



Desires

An awareness



Discipline

An action plan



01. DELIGHT - *An Attitude*

Psalms 40:8 in three translations

- NKJV - I delight to do Your will, O God, and Your law is within my heart.
- NET - I want to do what pleases you, my God. Your law dominates my thoughts.
- NCV - My God, I want to do what you want. Your teachings are in my heart.

What do you delight in so deeply that it changes your daily schedule?

- _____ morning coffee
- _____ checking your social media
- _____ daily exercise
- _____ time alone with God

Until you have no will of your own, this concept is risky. Are you willing to be a millionaire, a machinist, or a martyr?

02. DESIRES - *An awareness*

Psalms 37:4 means that He is downloading His desires into your heart, but they are disguised as your own. It isn't giving you carte blanche. It's better!

- His thoughts and desires become yours. You'll want what He wants for you.
- "Jehovah-Sneaky" releases His big "kerplunk" within you.

03. DISCIPLINE - *An action plan*

- Requires endurance and a long-term mentality.
- The value of discipline. *I Cor. 9:24-27*
- Requires setting priorities and the value we attribute to something.
- Many people change their mind about the will of God when it gets boring or difficult, but stay with it.

THE 3-D PRAYERS THAT ALWAYS GET ANSWERED

"Lord, let me love what You love." (*Delight*)

"Lord, put Your thoughts in me." (*Divine desires*)

"Lord, help me do my part." (*Discipline*)



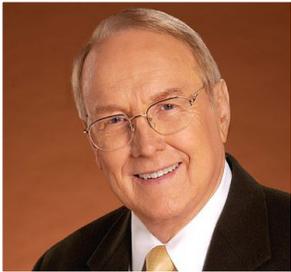
The Chick-Fil-A Story

"Our decision to close on Sunday was our way of honoring God and of directing our attention to things that mattered more than our business."

S. Truett Cathy 1921-2014

Samuel Truett Cathy grew up loving God and people. At the age of eight, young Truett experienced the feel-good power of customer service. He was selling Coca-Colas door-to-door for a nickel each. He and his brother, Ben, opened a 24-hour restaurant in 1946 by working 12 hour shifts and making many friends.

As God's love grew in him, so did his business. They gave food to people in the hospital and served food after funerals to the families of customers. The desire and energy to franchise kept growing, and Chick-Fil-A now serves their famous chicken sandwich with friendly "My Pleasures" in 2,605 locations. He desired to give millions of dollars to charities, and God gave him that opportunity. If it happened to Mr. Truett, it could happen to you. Why? Because you have the same Father.



Dr. James Dobson (1936 -)

"There is nothing more important than parents passing on a generational legacy of faith and values to their children."

Dr. James Dobson

The Divine Download principle of Philippians 2:13 began in Jim Dobson as a preacher's kid who wanted to help families grow stronger. He enjoyed studying, and his interest in psychology and patriotism led him to eventually become one of the most influential spokesmen for conservative social positions in American public life.

As a Christian psychologist, his 30 books have become the plumb line for strong marriages and parenting. He has advised five presidents and still refuses to be silent on the cultural shifts that are harmful to the Judeo-Christian family. For every desire, God gave the energy and grace to accomplish it. That's what happened to Dr. James Dobson, and that's what will happen for you.

The Progressive Will of God

- 01 If God remains first in our lives, the progressive will of God naturally unfolds.
- 02 God deposits His desires in our hearts.
- 03 Philippians 2:13 explains the divine download concept.
- 04 Even the discipline needed to fulfill God's Word comes from Him.

The will of God is not something that you add to your life. It's a course you choose. You either line yourself up with the Son of God, or you capitulate to the principle which governs the rest of the world.
- Elizabeth Elliot



Supporting Scriptures

Neh. 2:12

Ps. 34:7

Ps. 40:8

Prv. 3:4-6

Prv. 16:1-9

I Cor. 9:24-27

Ph. 2:13

Neh. 7:5

The Big Kerplunk

In the same way that you would kerplunk a rock into a lake, God puts His desires into your heart. Finish these sentences. You might have already been kerplunked and not know it!

Wouldn't it be cool if:

What would you do if you knew you would not fail?



God is putting His plan into my heart, and I'm soooo excited!

Reflection:

**“Love God and do as you please;
for the soul trained in love to God will do nothing
to offend the One who is Beloved.”**

- St. Augustine

4th-century theologian



SEARCH

Read how Nehemiah happened to leave his job to rebuild Jerusalem's wall.
Neh. 2:12, Neh. 7:5

Chapter 7

WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO

Let's face it. Life could be so easy if an angel could just point the way or if God could send a text, "Marry him" or "Marry his roommate" The fact is that *He does point to nine areas,* if you'll take the time to notice.



YOUR WORD IS TRUTH JN. 17:17

PROVERBS 16:3

Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established.

COLOSSIANS 3:15 AMPC

And let the peace *(soul harmony which comes)* **from Christ rule** *(act as umpire continually)* **in your hearts** *[deciding and settling with finality all questions that arise in your minds in the peaceful state]...*

1 THESSALONIANS 5:18 NLT

Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

God's Word is God's will.

WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO

"Lord, just point to any direction, and I'll obey You." Have you prayed that prayer? God's will is not a mystery. He is not hiding His will. You don't need to wait for an angel to tell you what to do.

NINE POINTERS FROM GOD

You've learned that God's will is His Word. Where the Word speaks, we obey. The Word of God provides clear boundaries regarding co-habitation and pre-marital sex, but what should you do about the many topics not mentioned such as which house to purchase or job to choose? When the Bible is silent on a topic, it would be so awesome if God could just point you the right way. Good news! He is pointing you right now to some of the less obvious options of discovering His will. Here are nine pointers!

01. **GODLY COUNSEL**

Godly counsel is advice offered by someone who is spiritually mature and successful in the area that you need guidance. For example, you wouldn't want to receive business advice from someone who has gone bankrupt.

Everyone offers free advice, so you'll need to learn how to graciously reject the opinions and unsound advice of even well-meaning relatives. Judge it by God's Word. A spiritually mature friend will tell you what you need to hear, not what you want to hear.

Plans go wrong for lack of advice; many advisors bring success. *Prv. 15:22 NLT*
In the multitude of counselors, there is safety. *Prv. 24:6*

02. **YOUR INWARD WITNESS**

God leads through your inward witness. Because your spirit man is connected to the Holy Spirit, it is always right. Say this out loud right now - The Holy Ghost knows everything and the Holy Ghost is always right. Pastor Tommy and I have lived this way for decades.

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.
Rom. 8:16

Notice that both words 'Spirit' are different. The first is capitalized because it is referring to the Holy Spirit, while the second refers to your human spirit. I refer to your spirit as your knower. Deep down, get still, turn off the clutter, and you'll know what to do. Why? Because God gave you a knower that is one with the One with all the treasures of wisdom and truth.

03. PEACE

Have you ever had an umpire make a call that you disagreed with? Did your yelling and complaining change his mind? Did it change the score? No. The umpire is always right.

Peace is our umpire. If you lose your peace, stop and back up.

And let the peace (*soul harmony which comes*) from Christ rule (*act as umpire continually*) in your hearts [*deciding and settling with finality all questions that arise in your minds, in that peaceful state*] ...Col. 3:15 AMPC

04. A FAITH EXTENDER

A faith extender is a **tangible corresponding action** to your spiritual expectations of faith.

- Attaching a physical activity to a spiritual promise
- "Lord, as I do this action in the natural realm, I am trusting You to fulfill Your promise in the spiritual realm."
- **Examples:** Request college information, apply for 4 jobs, ask her out for dinner...

Examples of Faith Extenders

- Joshua walked around Jericho to acknowledge God's promise for that city. *Jos. 6:1-27*
- Elijah poured out water as a seed for God's promise of rain. *1 Kng. 18:34*
- Blind man washed in the Pool of Siloam after Jesus' instructions. *Jn. 9:7*
- Four men brought their paralyzed friend to Jesus through the roof. *Mk. 4:2*

05. CURRENT RESPONSIBILITIES

God's will usually corresponds with your natural seasons. Here are **ten responsibilities** you don't even need to pray about.

1. If you are single, God's will is for you to **become emotionally whole**, spiritually strong, and content in your singleness.

2. If you are in debt, God's will is for you to **create a plan** to get out of debt.
3. If you are engaged, God's will is for you to start **blending two families**.
4. If you are pregnant, God's will is **take care of your body** and prepare for motherhood.
5. If you are a father, God's will is to financially **provide for your family**.
6. If you are a mom, postpone all-consuming personal goals, and learn the **joys of giving** yourself to your family.
7. If you have elderly parents, God's will is to **care for them**.
8. If you are a caregiver, God's will is not to travel on an **extended mission trip**.
9. If you are an American, God's will is to **vote**.
10. If you are a Christian, God's will is to **support your local church** with your time, talent, and treasures.

06. NATURAL TALENTS

Take some time to evaluate how God has hard-wired you. This is often a clue to God's direction for your life. Every talent you have came from the Lord for the purpose of bringing you and Him great pleasure.

Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. *Ps. 139:14 NLT*

Are you brilliant? A good listener? Can you figure out how things work? Artistic? Able to show empathy? Love to teach? Computer-geek? Organizer?

Young man, if you are 5'6" and 150 pounds, it is not likely that you'll be an NFL linebacker. Begin to pray, "Heavenly Father, show me what talents You've put in me and show me how I can use them for You."

07. PERSONAL INTERESTS

In Chapter Six, the concept of a divine download was introduced from Philippians 2:13. As a disclaimer, let me be clear that this only applies to those who desire to make a difference with their life, but if you want to serve Him, God can use anything for His glory.

- What would you do if God gave you the choice?
- Is it possible that those desires came from Him? Study *Ph. 2:13*.

Who is God?
Priscilla experienced God through the "Scriptures of Truth" and planted the church of Ephesus in her home.
Read *I Cor. 16:19*

08. YOUR UNIQUE TEMPERAMENT

Your temperament refers to personality traits that determine how you react to the world. For the most part, it is an innate quality in every child, one with which they are born. I have studied this extensively and come to the conclusion that God wastes nothing.

A simplistic review of the four human temperaments can be seen below:

- The Talker (*Sanguine*)
- The Doer (*Choleric*)
- The Watcher (*Phlegmatic*)
- The Thinker (*Melancholy*)

Career counselors often use temperament tests to guide college-bound students. Even though these are natural quizzes, being aware of how God created you can become a key to finding His path.

09. TO YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES

Circumstances can be your friend or foe in discovering God's will. Admittedly, sometimes it seems that God orchestrated the closed door to point you to something better. Such was the case of Bill Bright, the powerhouse evangelist, who was rejected by the army due to a sports injury. He decided to drive to Los Angeles and kick that closed door open.

On his first night in LA, he picked up a hitchhiker*, who asked him where he was staying. It was Dawson Trotter, the founder of the Navigators! Through his influence, Bill got born again and eventually began Campus Crusade For Christ (now Cru) which has introduced thousands of young people to the Savior.

Other times God invites your circumstances to serve as an open door. Opportunities that you might tend to overlook could easily be the Lord's doing.

An example of this might be

- When you score high in Track, and your neighbor is related to a college coach...
- When your degree is in accounting, and your mom owns a business ...

Believers can expect the Holy Spirit to guide them.

Even when God's Word is silent, His Holy Spirit is busy opening and closing doors on your behalf. He is involved behind the scenes of that job interview, that first date or last date, minor injury, and major decision. Dear one, God is directing your every step.

As Pastor Tommy says, God is doing far more for you that you don't know about than what you do.

*This was 1941 and not recommended today.

The Progressive Will of God

- 01 Where the Bible speaks, we obey.
- 02 When the Bible is silent, God guides believers through the inward witness.
- 03 God uses godly counsel to confirm His path for our lives.
- 04 Faith extenders attach a physical activity to a spiritual promise.

The will of God is often disguised as personal responsibility.



Supporting Scriptures

Jos. 6:1-27

Prv. 16:3

Prv. 15:22

Prv. 12:15

Rom. 8:16

Ph. 2:13

Col. 3:15

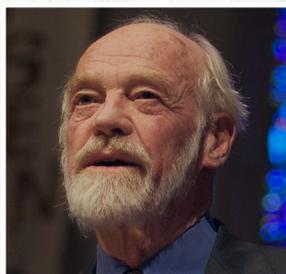
I Th. 5:18

The Desires Of Your Heart



Eric loved to run.

When I run, I feel His pleasure." Olympic Gold medalist who refused to run on Sunday, because he was "running for a different prize."



Eugene loved theology.

A Presbyterian minister who merged his love for writing, theology and evangelism to write the Message, a Bible in modern language.



Condoleeza loved foreign policy.

Grew up as the daughter of a minister in racist, segregated Alabama; yet became the first African American female Secretary of State.



Charles loved to draw funny pictures.

Charles "Sparky" Schultz lived a life of rejection, yet his famous Peanuts comic strip was syndicated in over 2,600 newspaper, inspiring all to kindness.



God's will is often disguised as a growing desire in your heart.

What do you love?

Reflection



SEARCH

Read how Paul knew God's will by listening to his spirit. *Acts 16:7, Acts 17:16, Acts 18:5, Acts 19:21*

Chapter 8

THIS IS THE WILL OF GOD

Everything begins and ends with the Father's love.
God's perfect will for you is to meet Him as your Father and then receive Him, trust Him, depend on Him, *enjoy Him*, obey Him, tell others about Him. And in between all of those moments, *life happens*, with jobs and jeans and jellybeans. Without Him, there is *no real life* at all.



YOUR WORD IS TRUTH JN. 17:17

EXODUS 15:11 NIV

Who compares with You in power, in holy majesty, in awesome praises, wonder-working God?"

PSALMS 77:14

You are the God who does wonders.

ECCLESIASTES 12:13 MSG

The last and final word is this: Fear God. Do what He tells you. And that's it.

*The Bible is about a Father
and His family.*

GENERAL TRUTHS ABOUT GOD'S WILL

1. GOD'S WILL IS DOMINION

Settle it once and for all. God wants you on top. He doesn't want you underneath. In Genesis 1:26, God created man. God gave him a job, and that job was to have dominion. We know that Adam was to have dominion over the cattle, the fish, and the birds. But what about us? It is also God's will for us to have dominion? Yes, it is.

2. GOD'S WILL IS STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship is taking care of what God gives you. If God has given you a car, stewardship is loving God so much that you are going to prove it by taking care of that car. Stewardship is taking care of whatever you have. If all you have is a little corner of a college dormitory, stewardship is saying, "Thank you, Jesus, for this little corner of a college dormitory. I am going to show how thankful I am by taking good care of it."

3. GOD'S WILL IS PROGRESSIVE

"God's will is progressive" means that He won't show you everything about your life at one time, because if He did, you would probably run away and be scared. You probably couldn't handle it. So, He shows you a little bit at a time. He gives you little glimpses into the plan of God for your life. I've heard that Lordship is saying, "Yes" to Jesus Christ before He ever asks the question. John 16:13 tells us that the Spirit of Truth has come and He will show you things to come.

4. GOD'S WILL IS DISCIPLESHIP

If you are a baby in Jesus, you should ask God for a big brother, or a big sister, in the Lord. And, if you are not a baby anymore, if you are strong and stable in God, then you should begin to ask God, "What little sister do you want me to help?" "What little brother do you want me to put under my wing?" That is God's plan.

5. GOD'S WILL IS UNITY

John 17:11 is the last prayer that Jesus prayed. This is really the Lord's prayer. The church has called it, "Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name..." That was not the Lord's prayer, that was the Lord teaching other people how to pray. But the heart prayer of the Lord was, "Oh Father, let them be one!"

6. GOD'S WILL IS SALVATION

"Sozo" is the Greek word for salvation. Now, when we talk about salvation, we think about our soul going to heaven when we die. But that is not what this "sozo" is all about. "Sozo" implies deliverance, salvation, and preservation in every area of our lives; spirit, soul, and body. Not only am I emphasizing your heart and your spirit going to heaven, but I'm talking about your head. Is your head saved? Are you tormented with nightmares, fear, anger, and bitterness? We have Christians that are born again, but their mind is messed up with anger, fear, jealousy, and lust. Your body will one day be immortal, but until it is, you'll have to control your flesh. It will get easier and easier because you will have more dominion as you grow stronger in God.



Highlight these scriptures that describe the good life that “sozo” represents.

Ps. 68:19, Ps. 84:11, Prv. 10:22, Jn. 10:10

7. GOD’S WILL IS DIVINE HEALTH

Sickness is of the devil! Absolutely, without a doubt, God hates sickness. If He did not hate sickness, Jesus would have been wrong to heal the sick. Do you want to know what God is like? Just look at Jesus. Jesus healed the sick. Some people would say, “The day of miracles is over.” But I say, “There never was a DAY of miracles. There’s a GOD of miracles.”

8. GOD’S WILL IS PROSPERITY

People don’t like to hear that it is God’s will for us to prosper. People fight so hard to be poor. People say, “I think it’s God’s will for me to be poor and humble.” Well, you can be rich and humble. In fact, the more God blesses, the more humble we get. The more we recognize it is not our doing, but it is the very hand of God. It is the sovereign blessing of God himself, and it is humbling. God’s will is prosperity. If that word scares you, you can cross it out and put abundance in its place.

9. GOD’S WILL IS RELATIONSHIPS

We call them divine appointments. We call them glorious connections. There are times when there is a knitting in the spirit between you and somebody else. There’s just a “click” that happens. Godly relationships keep you balanced and focused on eternal priorities. Many single people get messed up with this “click” and interpret its purpose as romantic, totally missing God’s plan. But, when God puts you together with a relationship, it is for an eternal purpose. It is for advancing the kingdom of God in some way, somehow. Pursue Godly relationships.

10. GOD’S WILL IS BETTER THAN YOUR GREATEST EXPECTATION

Ephesians 3:20 says, “Now unto him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask, think or imagine.” One version says, “God is able to do anything you dare to ask or believe.”

What are you asking God to do in your life? Are you asking God to get you out of debt? Stretch your faith a little bit and expect Him to get you out of debt, plus pay someone else’s tuition. Are you asking God to give you a Toyota? Stretch your faith and ask God for a Buick. It’s better to aim high and miss it than to reach low and reach it. God’s will is better than anything you ever dared to ask, expect, or believe.

These are ten truths about His general will for every believer. As you grow in God, you will discover it to become a matter of routine to obey these ten absolutes. After a season of victory learning His ways, He will begin to show you His specific plan for your life.

*“You’ve been asking the wrong question!
Replace “What is God’s will for my life?”
with “What is God’s Will?”*

10 ABSOLUTES TO DISCOVER GOD'S WILL (REVIEW)

01. Discovering God's will is not as difficult as people think.
02. Ninety percent (90%) of God's will is the same for everyone; to know Him as _____ and obey His _____.
03. God's will is three-fold: His _____ will (90%), His _____ will (10%), and His sovereign will. (100%)
04. As you do the 90%, the 10% will unfold. His progressive will unfolds with spiritual maturity.
05. Jesus Christ is our model of demonstrating God's will.

06. God's _____ is His will. God's will is His Word.
07. Where the Word speaks, we obey.
08. When the Word is silent, believers can expect Holy Spirit to _____ their decision making.
09. God's will points us to our _____, then natural talents and personal interests.
10. God does lead through dreams and visions, but never in a way that is contrary to His character or His _____.

Who is God?
Peter experienced
God as his "Forgiving
Father" and accepted
a leadership role.

Read *Jn. 21:14-19*

GIVING THANKS IS THE WILL OF GOD

Notice that we give thanks **in everything** and not for everything. The reason you can give thanks for unpleasant things is because, as a believer, you are in Christ and God is your Father. **Gratitude** and **thankfulness** invite God's presence into your life.

I THESSALONIANS 5:18

*In everything give thanks,
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.*

I Th. 5:18.

What's your story? What has He done for you?

Thank you for _____.

Thank you for _____.

List some *eternal* things to be thankful for.

- Thank you for eternal life. Heaven is my home.
- Thank you for the invitation to be Your child.
- Thank you for Your presence. I am never alone.
- Thank you for my inward witness that assures me of Your will.
- Thank you for _____.
- Thank you for _____.
- Thank you for _____.

Never again should you fret over "missing the will of God." THIS is the will of God. Practice it when you first wake up. Repeat it during a difficult day. Learn to thank Him for eternal things that cannot change will change your perspective. It reminds you of your Father's love and ...

Everything begins and ends with the Father's love.

THIS IS THE WILL OF GOD

DGW = DGW

Discovering God's Will
=
Doing God's Word



Supporting Scriptures

Ex. 15:11

Ps. 37:23

Ps. 40:8

Ps. 77:14

Ecc. 12:13

Rom. 10:9

Ph. 2:13

I Th. 5:18

Confessions of Faith

About

Discovering God's Will

A spiritual law that few recognize is that our confessions rule us. To "confess" means to "agree with," so as you confess these phrases daily, you are agreeing with God. Walking with God is the simple habit of "Confess with your mouth, and believe in your heart." Rom. 10:9



God's Word in your mouth releases God's power in your life.

I delight to do Your will, O God... Ps. 40:8

My steps are ordered of the Lord. Ps. 37: 23

God is working in me today. Ph. 2:13

You are my God. My times are in Your hands. Ps. 31:14

I have the mind of Christ. I Cor. 2:16

**Tape this list to a mirror, take a picture of it on your phone, declare it out loud daily.*

Reflection



SEARCH

Our confessions rule us. Read these scriptures about the power of our words: Prv. 18:21, Mk. 11:24, Hb. 4:14, Hb. 10:23

ANSWER KEY

CHAPTER	EXERCISE	ANSWERS
Chapter 1	7 Misconceptions...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miserable Rules Mystery Place <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Position Spouse Exciting
Chapter 2	Is the Permissive Will... True/False	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good Acceptable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. F 2. F 3. F 4. T <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5. T 6. T 7. T
Chapter 3	3 Benefits of Knowing... God Reveals Himself Through His Compound Names	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value Secure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creator Banner Shepherd Heals There <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contentment Righteousness Sanctifier Provide Peace
Chapter 4	A will is a legal... Jesus Shares... Good news!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Testament Testator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executor Beneficiary <p>New Testament</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. F 2. E 3. D 4. I 5. G <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6. H 7. C 8. A 9. J 10. B
Chapter 5	What is God's Will...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anointed Doing good All <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oppressed With
Chapter 6	Playing Checkers...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roll Thoughts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plans
Chapter 8	10 Absolutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Father Word Perfect Progressive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Word Guide Responsibilities Written Word

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GOD'S SOVEREIGN WILL

A BIBLE TIMELINE OF SEVEN FUTURE EVENTS

For I am God, and there is no other...My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure, Indeed I have spoken it; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed it; I will also do it. *Is. 48:8-11*

To say that God is Sovereign means that He is the ultimate source of all power, authority and everything that exists. He is in complete control, and there is absolutely nothing that occurs contrary to His master plan. Here are a few of the future events that cannot be altered by prayer or politics.

- 01 The Rapture of the Church** *Rev. 4:1, I Cor. 15:52, I Th. 4:16*
An eschatological term referring to a Bible event when all Christian believers - living and dead - will rise into Heaven and join Jesus Christ in the clouds as He comes for His Church.
- 02 The Tribulation** *Rev. 6:17*
A future seven-year period of time when God will finish His discipline of Israel and finalize His judgement of the unbelieving world with plagues and severe hardships. AKA as the Day of the Lord, Jacob's Trouble.
- 03 The Battle of Armageddon** *Rev. 16:16-17, Rev. 19:11*
The final war between human governments and God where the armies of the Antichrist lose against Christ, the Victor.
- 04 The Second Coming Of Christ** *Rev. 19:11-16, Zech. 12:10*
Jesus Christ comes with His Church back to earth to rule and reign for 1,000 years.
- 05 The Millennial Reign of Christ** *Rev. 20:1-6*
The 1,000-year reign of Jesus Christ on earth after the Tribulation to fulfill all of God's promises, called covenants, specifically to Israel.
- 06 Final Battle, Satan's End, The Final Judgment** *Rev. 20:7-15*
After 1,000 years, Satan is released from his prison to go out and deceive the nations. His evil army is quickly defeated and all unbelievers will appear before the Great, White Throne.
- 07 Eternal Heaven or Eternal Hell, New Heaven, New Earth** *Rev. 21:1 - Rev. 22:21*
The eternal dwelling place of believers in the presence of the Lord.

God's sovereign will is His business, and doing His Word is our business.

ADDITIONAL “WILL OF GOD” SCRIPTURES

- **Mt. 7:21** *Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My father in heaven.*
- **Mk. 3:35** *Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.*
- **Jn. 4:34** *My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.*
- **Jn. 6:40** *For this is the will of God, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life.*
- **Rom. 8:27** *... the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.*
- **Rom. 12:2** *... test and approve what God’s will is...*
- **Eph. 1:5,9,11**... *the good pleasure of His will, the mystery of His will, the counsel of His will ...*
- **Eph. 5:17** *Do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is.*
- **Eph. 6:6** *... not as men-pleasers, but doing the will of God from the heart.*
- **Col. 1:9**... *I do not cease to pray ... that you would be filled with the knowledge of His will...*
- **Col. 4:12** *... that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God.*
- **II Cor. 8:5** *... but first they gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God.*
- **I Th. 4:3** *It is the will of God that you are sanctified.*
- **I Th. 5:18** *In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God ...*
- **Heb. 10:36** *For you have need of endurance, so that you may do the will of God and receive what is promised.*
- **I Pet. 2:15** *For it is God’s will that by doing right you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish men.*
- **I Jn. 2:17** *The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.*

Jesus Christ summed up what the will of God is in Matthew 7:24 as *“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them ...”*

First a FACE, then a GRACE, then a PLACE to run your RACE.

Ph. 3:11 Rom. 12:6 Mat. 5:16 Heb. 12:1

AFTER TEXAS BIBLE INSTITUTE ...

01. Follow a natural path until supernaturally redirected.
02. Learn a trade.
03. Become financially responsible.
04. Listen to your parent's counsel. They know you and will usually make a judgement from a mature, loving perspective.
05. Return home, and shine for God. Do little things in a big way.
06. Create a three-year financial plan. Pay off debts and save for the future.
07. Consider a faith-based college that supports your faith. Liberal professors in secular Universities, who ridicule faith in God, now outnumber conservative educators by 13 to 1.
08. Support a thriving, Bible-believing local church with your tithe, talents, and time.
09. Keep growing in God. You will graduate from TBI, but you will always be a student in God's Word.
10. The TBI World Alumni Association is here to pray for you. Keep in touch!

***Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.
In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Prv. 3:5-6***

DEDICATION

Dedicated to our Sons and Daughters in the Texas Bible Institute World Alumni Association

May God continue to use you to share the good news of Jesus Christ in your nation!

English

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

Spanish

Porque tanto amó Dios al mundo que ha dado a su hijo unigénito, que todo aquel que cree en él no debe pierda, mas tenga vida eterna. *Juan 3:16*

Arabic

ملاعلا لوللا بحأ اذل

Amharic (Ethiopia)

እግዚአብሔር ዓለምን ወደታልና

Belize Creole

Yu si, Gaad lov di peep l dehn eena dis werl soh moch

Bengali (India)

কারণ ঈশ্বর জগৎকে এমন প্রমে করলিনে যে

Bulgarian

Защото Бог толкова възлюби света

Chamorro (Guam)

Sa taegüenao na jaguaeya si Yuus y tano

French

Car Dieu a tant aimé le monde

German

Denn also hat Gott die Welt geliebt

Haitian Creole

Paske, Bondye sitèlman renmen lèzòm

Hausa (Nigeria)

Gama Allah ya yi kamnar duniya

Hebrew

כי ככה היה באלה העולם

Hindi (India)

परमेश्वर को जगत से इतना प्रेम था

Hungarian

Mert úgy szerette Isten e világot

Indonesian

Karena begitu besar kasih Allah akan dunia

Japanese

神は世を愛された

Jamaican Creole

Kaa, yu si, Gad lov di worl so moch

Korean

신이 세상을 너무 사랑했기 때문에

Mandarin Chinese

神愛世人

Maori (New Zealand)

Koia ano te aroha o te Atua ki te ao

Romanian

Fiindcă atât de mult a iubit Dumnezeu lumea

Russian

Ибо так возлюбил Бог мир

Setswana (Botswana)

Gonne Modimo o ratile lefatshe mo go kalo

Swahili

Kwa maana jinsi hii Mungu aliupenda ulimwengu

Tagalog (Philippines)

Sapagkat pag ibig ng Diyos sa sanlibutan

Tamil (Sri Lanka/India)

தவேன் இவ்வளவு உலகத்தில் அன்பாகிறந்தார்

Thai

เพราะว่าพระเจ้าทรงรักโลก

Ukrainian

Так бо Бог полюбив світ

Zulu

Ngokuba uNkulunkulu walithanda izwe kangaka

I AM A WORSHIPPER

By Rachel Burchfield

I am a worshipper.
That's not just what I do, but it's who I am.
I am not a female worshipper. I am a worshipper
who is a female.
I am not a mom who worships. I am a
worshipper who is a mom.
I am not a Bible teacher who worships. I am a
worshipper who is a Bible teacher.

I am a worshipper.
Additional descriptions enhance me, but they
don't define me.
They are what I do, but a worshipper is who I am.
If life throws a curveball and setbacks abound,
nothing about my identity has changed.
I am a worshipper.

I don't need a perfect life, because I worship a
perfect God.
With or without an impressive career,
With or without happy circumstances,
With or without a perfect home, perfect
physique, perfect spouse, or perfect kids ...
I am still, and first, a worshipper.

And when life on earth is over, and Heaven
becomes my home,
Nothing except my location will have changed,
because
I am a worshipper.

