

# Guidance

## God's Will and Prayer

### 1 God Has Promised To Answer

2 1 John 5:14,15 "And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if  
3 we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know  
4 that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the peti-  
5 tions that we desired of him."

6 1 John 3:22 "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we  
7 keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his  
8 sight."

9 "He makes it plain that our asking must be according to God's will; we  
10 must ask for the things that He has promised, and whatever we receive  
11 must be used in doing His will. The conditions met, the promise is un-  
12 equivocal." Education, p. 257.7

13 "When we pray for earthly blessings, the answer to our prayer may be  
14 delayed, or God may give us something other than we ask, but not so  
15 when we ask for deliverance from sin. It is His will to cleanse us from  
16 sin, to make us His children, and to enable us to live a holy life." De-  
17 sire of Ages, p. 266.2

### 18 The Steps To Knowing God's Will

19 1. God wants His will to be perfectly accomplished in our lives:

20 Colossians 4:12 "That ye may stand perfect and complete in all the  
21 will of God."

22 2. God is willing to give wisdom:

23 James 1:5 "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives  
24 to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."

25 3. Accepting God's direction brings true and enduring happiness.

26 John 13:17 "If you know these things, blessed are you if you do

27 them.”

28 4. We must be completely open to whatever God wants. To do so, it is  
29 best to have no will of our own on the matter:

30 Luke 9:23 "If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself, take  
31 up his cross daily, and follow Me."

32 5. God will never lead contrary to what is taught in the Bible:

33 Isaiah 8:20: "To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak ac-  
34 cording to this word, it is because there is no light in them."

35 6. God will providentially direct us by opening and closing doors:

36 Proverbs 3:6: "In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct  
37 your paths."

38 7. The Holy Spirit will make impressions upon the heart:

39 John 10:27 "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they fol-  
40 low Me."

41 8. When God is leading, His peace will rule in our hearts. Lack of  
42 peace is an important indicator that what we are pursuing may not be  
43 God's will, or that it is not yet God's time:

44 Colossians 3:15: "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to  
45 which also you were called in one body; and be thankful."

46 9. It is often wise to share God's leadings with a mature and surren-  
47 dered Christian, to ascertain if we are correctly understanding God's  
48 leading:

49 Proverbs 11:14 "In the multitude of counselors there is safety."

50 10. As God leads us forward He often only shows us one step at a  
51 time.

52 Isa. 30:21 "Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is  
53 the way, walk in it, whenever you turn to the right hand whenever you  
54 turn to the left.'"

55 11. Confirmation—NOT direction—is sometimes gained in seeking a  
56 fleece.

57 Judges 6:37 “Look, I shall put a fleece of wool on the threshing floor;  
58 if there is dew on the fleece only, and it is dry on all the ground, then I  
59 shall know that You will save Israel by my hand, as You have said.”

## 60 Other Thoughts On Knowing God’s Will

### 61 God Reveals His Will Three Ways

62 “There are three ways in which the Lord reveals His will to us, to  
63 guide us, and to fit us to guide others. How may we know His voice  
64 from that of a stranger? How shall we distinguish it from the voice of  
65 a false shepherd? **God reveals His will to us in His word, the Holy**  
66 **Scriptures. His voice is also revealed in His providential workings;**  
67 and it will be recognized if we do not separate our souls from Him by  
68 walking in our own ways, doing according to our own wills, and fol-  
69 lowing the promptings of an unsanctified heart, until the senses have  
70 become so confused that eternal things are not discerned, and the  
71 voice of Satan is so disguised that it is accepted as the voice of God.

72 Another way in which God’s voice is heard is **through the appeals of**  
73 **His Holy Spirit, making impressions upon the heart, which will be**  
74 **wrought out in the character.** If you are in doubt upon any subject  
75 you must first consult the Scriptures. If you have truly begun the life  
76 of faith you have given yourself to the Lord to be wholly His, and He  
77 has taken you to mold and fashion according to His purpose, that you  
78 may be a vessel unto honor. You should have an earnest desire to be  
79 pliable in His hands and to follow whithersoever He may lead you.  
80 You are then trusting Him to work out His designs, while at the same  
81 time you are co-operating with Him by working out your own salva-  
82 tion with fear and trembling. You, my brother, will find difficulty here  
83 because you have not yet learned by experience to know the voice of  
84 the Good Shepherd, and this places you in doubt and peril. You ought  
85 to be able to distinguish His voice.”—*Testimonies* Vol. 5, p. 512.1,2

### 86 We Must Trust God

87 “Many who profess to be Christ’s followers have an anxious, troubled  
88 heart, because they are afraid to trust themselves with God. They do  
89 not make a complete surrender to Him; for they shrink from the conse-  
90 quences that such a surrender may involve. Unless they do make this  
91 surrender, they cannot find peace.... **Worry is blind, and cannot dis-**

92 cern the future; but Jesus sees the end from the beginning. In  
93 every difficulty He has His way prepared to bring relief. ... Those  
94 who accept the one principle of making the service of God  
95 supreme, will find perplexities vanish, and a plain path before  
96 their feet.”—*Ministry of Healing*, pp 480, 481

97 Following God’s Leading Brings Success!

98 “Too many, in planning for a brilliant future, make an utter failure. Let  
99 God plan for you. As a little child, trust to the guidance of Him who  
100 will “keep the feet of His saints.” **God never leads His children oth-**  
101 **erwise than they would choose to be led, if they could see the end**  
102 **from the beginning, and discern the glory of the purpose which**  
103 **they are fulfilling as coworkers with Him.”**—*Ministry of Healing*, p  
104 479

105 God Has a Plan

106 “He gives “to every man his work.” Each has his place in the eternal  
107 plan of heaven. ... **Not more surely is the place prepared for us in**  
108 **the heavenly mansions than is the special place designated on**  
109 **earth where we are to work for God.”**—*Christ Object Lessons*, p.  
110 326

111 Choose God’s Way At All Times

112 “As Christians, **we ought not to engage in any employment upon**  
113 **which we cannot conscientiously ask the blessing of the Lord.”**—  
114 *Testimonies*, Vol. 4, p. 629.1

115 Do Not Use a Coin To Learn God’s Will

116 “Let none be led from the sound, sensible principles that God has laid  
117 down for the guidance of His people, **to depend for direction on any**  
118 **such device as the tossing up of a coin. Such a course is well pleas-**  
119 **ing to the enemy of souls; for he works to control the coin, and**  
120 **through its agency works out his plans.**—*Selected Messages*, Vol. 2,  
121 p. 326.

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