

“FOUND – GOD’S WILL”

- seed of ideas by John MacArthur Jr.

Overriding principle regarding God’s will:

We must be living in tune with the clearly revealed general will of God in Scripture before God will reveal the specific will for our personal life.

SIX PRINCIPLES TO EXPERIENCING GOD’S WILL:

1. You Must Be S A V E D

Romans 10:9-10 That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

2. You Must Be S P I R I T - F I L L E D

Ephesians 5:17-20 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. 18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. 19 Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, 20 always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Spirit-Filled is not the idea of a full cup, but of a full hose. What demonstrates that the Spirit is present, is living with the fruit of the Spirit hanging off of our lives.

Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

3. You Must Be Living a S A N C T I F I E D Life

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 Finally, brothers, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more. 2 For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus. 3 It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; 4 that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, 5 not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God; 6 and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. 7 For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. 8 Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit.

Hebrews 12:14 Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.

Definition of holy – Wholly the Lord’s (completely the Lord’s)

4. You Must Be Living a S U B M I S S I V E Life

Ephesians 5:21 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Luke 17:10 So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'

5. You Must Be Willing to S U F F E R

1 Peter 2:21-23 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. 22 "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." 23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

We were called to suffer
We must suffer Christ’s way
Not a martyr syndrome

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If Jesus hadn’t been willing to suffer, He would have missed the cross.

**IF THESE FIVE PRINCIPLES ARE OPERATING IN OUR LIFE,
THEN THE SIXTH PRINCIPLE IS:**

6. DO WHATEVER YOU WANT TO DO !

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

Psalms 145:19 He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.

Psalms 37:4 Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Testing your spirit as a child of God:

- * Is the fruit of the Spirit evident in my life?
- * Am I separating my life out in holiness to God? Am I wholly the Lord's?
- * Is Jesus truly Lord of my life?
 - Am I willing to go anywhere God tells me to go,
 - Do anything God tells me to do,
 - And say anything God tells me to say?
- * Am I willing to suffer for the sake of Christ or am I always looking for the easy way out?
- * Does this that I want to do accentuate my talents and gifting?
- * Having ruled out your flesh, ask these questions:
- * The Righteousness, Peace and Joy Test: (Romans 14:17)
 - Will this that I want to do encourage right living before God?
 - Do I have a peace about doing it (a settled disposition of order and wholeness)?
 - Will it lead to a life of joy in the Holy Spirit?
- * The Faith Test: (Romans 14:23)
 - Do I have God's blessing in doing it?