



# THE LORD'S FLOCK GROWTH DIGEST

## PASTORAL GROWTH SERIES

### How to Know the Will of God (Part 1/3)

Sis. Techie Rodriguez, Elder-Founder  
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#### Reading: Saul's Conversion Acts 9:1-6

v6 "Now get up and go into the city and you will be told what you must do."

#### Reflection:

Why is it important that we know the will of God?  
If you will encounter the Lord Jesus Christ face-to-face and would like to ask Him any question, what would that question be?

#### Saul (St. Paul) asked two important questions:

- 1) Who are You, sir? (v7)
  - Do we really know our Lord? Or do we know Him only by Name? Do we have a personal relationship with Him? Who is Christ to you now?
  - Does He own you? Lord means "owner", "sovereign ruler", "boss." Is Christ your "Boss"? If Christ is your "Boss", then you will follow anything He says. Your answer will determine where you will spend your eternity.
- 2) Lord, what do You want me to do?  
This should be the heart's desire of every child of God. God did not hide His will from Saul and will not hide His will from us.

#### Three ways to understand the WILL of God and how it operates.

- 1) God's sovereign will (His highest will)
  - The decision of God is always carried out and nothing in the universe can stop this.
  - God is God and accomplishes what He wishes. Are we playing like gods?
  - Do we ask Him about the decisions/next steps that we will make? Or do we ask so many advises from different people, and we choose whichever we like?
  - He made everything on earth. Therefore He will control the universe and protect us.
- 2) God's moral will (the righteous will)
  - Some things are right and some things are wrong.
  - The moral will reveals the word of God, and this is our conscience.
  - The Lord does not want us to lie, to be anxious, to grumble, and to commit sin.

- If we want to follow the will of God, then we need to correct our life: is this right or wrong; is this according to the will of God?
- "Do not conform yourself to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern: (a) *what is the will of God*, (b) *what is good*, (c) *what is pleasing*, (d) *what is perfect*" (ROM 12:2; Col 3).
- 3) God's particular will. He has a will that is particular & peculiar for each one of us.
  - "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; before you were born, I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations" (Jer 1:5 )
  - Ananias was called by God. The Lord said: this man will proclaim His name . . ." (Acts 9:15)
  - Have you discovered God's particular will for you? He has a particular will for singles, for married people, for the youth etc.
  - God's WILL for Soar
    - God has a particular call for me. In 1980, after my spiritual baptism, I did not even plan to continue. But my mom said " God will use you in a very great work for the Him". It was His sovereign will that worked in my life.
    - It was when I was a sinner that He died for me (Rom 5). It was His moral will that I stopped cursing, lying, being proud, and everything that was wrong in my past. Little by little I learned to surrender to His will. When I started reading the Scripture, listening to the priests and preachers, I learned what was right and wrong, what displeases God. God rescued me and saved me. It was His particular will that I became a preacher of the Gospel, an itinerant preacher – anywhere and at all times communicating / sharing my faith; despite this home quarantine, I am praying, reading and preaching through various means.
- Even if you are just a small part in God's creation, God has formed you even before you were born. God knows you (Psalms 139: 5-14). He knows and loves you, even all the hairs on your head is counted (Mt 10:26-31). He takes care of you; God provides for everything, specially in this time of crisis. God designed a particular plan or blueprint for each of

us. He promised to reveal it to you and guide you into it.

wants you to know His will. Through reading the Bible, you will discover the will of God.

### Some Myths (wrong ideas) about the Will of God:

- 1) God will give you a roadmap. No! He does not give roadmaps. But He will give you a relationship with Him. How will you know His will if you do not have a relationship with Him? As you follow Him, and know Him deeper, He will reveal His will to you. Discover the will of God through the pages in the Bible. "I am the only one who knows you and know my plans for you. I have already planned for you – plans for your good, your prosperity, not for your woe, but for your welfare; If you will only seek me with all your heart" (1 Jer 29:11-14). God will not give you a roadmap. But He will give you a "pillar of cloud and fire" to show you the way (Exo 13:21).
- 2) God does not want you to have any fun. Many are afraid to seek His will, because they already have their own plans, and do not want to submit them to Lord. They already decided on what to do, and do not want to listen to His will.
  - God promised a full, abundant life. "I have come to give you life, and have it more abundantly (Jn 10:10).
  - Parents, do you not give good gifts to your children? How much more will our Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who love Him? (Lk 11:11-13). He is a great God, always a God that gives you joy.
- 3) God only speaks to certain holy people
  - God does not limit His interactions with the high people, or people with positions only. He wants to talk to all the people.
  - If you follow his will, you will be led to a holy life.
  - He has spoken to us in these past few days by His Son, Jesus, who is the answer sent by our Father, to give us the bread of life, or manna from heaven.
- 4) You do not have to wait in Damascus
  - The Lord said: "Go outside and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by". God was not in the strong /heavy wind, nor in the earthquake, nor in the fire, but in a tiny whispering sound (1K 19:11-12). If you live according to His will, you will hear and discover His voice anywhere you are.
- 5) God only reveals His will to the young. No. God calls people of all ages. He speaks to you through His Word, and in the silence, you can hear the tiny whisper of the Lord. While you are alive, you need to seek His will (MT 6:32)
- 6) God's will is hidden from us, and we have to find it ourselves. This is not true. No father or parent will hide his plans from his children. He reveals and

### Therefore, how will you know the WILL of God?

1. PRAY! TALK TO HIM, LISTEN TO HIM THROUGH THE SCRIPTURE. This is God's voice.
  - We are all inspired by the Holy Spirit (2Tim 3:16 - 17).
    - To correct you - show you where you are wrong, where you sin; what you are doing that needs to be straightened.
    - To guide you – show you the right path
    - To counsel you in making decisions
    - To teach you the faith
  - The devil is busy making you afraid, worried, hopeless, discouraged. If you are ignorant about God's Word, the devil will cause all of these. "My people perish because they do not know My words. Your opponent, the devil is prowling around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour" (1P 5:8). The Lord speaks in many ways. In prayer, speak to Him and you will hear His voice.
2. WHATEVER YOU READ, IT IS IMPORTANT TO OBEY AND HAVE FAITH
  - Have faith in God especially during this crisis, when we can not go to mass, or have our usual gathering. Do not fret. Do not be impatient. We have many ways to be in contact and to share.
  - Be busy and productive. Put your place in order.
  - Help your parents. Win them over.
  - For those who are solo, you are not alone; spend precious time with God. Do not let the enemy have room to destroy you.

### CONCLUSION

The Lord will be amazed with your faith. With Him, nothing is impossible. Next week will be Part 2 "Easy Steps Concerning the Will of God"

### Prayer:

*Father, give us the grace to discover **your will** by searching your Scripture, by meditating on your words, so that we will be guided. "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light for my path" (Ps 119: 105).*

**Transcriber/Writer:** Sis. Jo Advincula

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