Talmid Shorts 05/30/18

Dr. Eddie IldefonsoFinding the Will of God

Finding the Will of God

John 14:23-27

John 14:23-27 (NASB)

²³ "Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him."

²⁴ "He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me."

²⁵ "These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you."

²⁶ "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you."

²⁷ "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful."

Discovering God's Will, will be an ongoing adventure with rewards along the way. His Word is our map for the journey, and the Holy Spirit is our guide, who provides "road signs" as we travel.

Circumstances. God may use situations—even negative ones—to communicate with us (Philippians 1:12). To discern the meaning of a situation, we must relate biblical principles to our circumstances. God never contradicts His Word, and His will always upholds it.

Philippians 1:12 (NASB)

¹² "Now I want you to know, brethren, that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel."

Counsel. God may direct us through counsel from other believers (**Proverbs 1:5**). **Proverbs 1:5** (**NASB**)

⁵ "A wise man will hear and increase in learning, And a man of understanding will acquire wise counsel."

To assess what they are saying, ask yourself, Do they honor the Lord in their attitudes and choices? Are their decisions based on scriptural truth? Do they offer biblical principles to help me find God's will, or just their own opinion?

Conscience. Once our "inner alarm system" has been programmed according to scriptural foundations, we can use it as a resource to determine God's plan for our life (1 Timothy 1:19).

1 Timothy 1:19 (NASB)

¹⁹ "Keeping faith and a good conscience, which some have rejected and suffered shipwreck in regard to their faith."

Common Sense. When decisions need to be made quickly, the Spirit helps us think through which choices will honor God (<u>James 1:5-6</u>).

James 1:5-6 (NASB)

⁵ "But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

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⁶ But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind."

Compulsion. Sometimes God gives us compelling desires to see certain things happen. If we see no contradiction with Scripture and our inner feelings remain strong over time, we should move ahead (<u>Psalm 33:4 NIV; 1 Corinthians 9:16</u>).

Psalm 33:4 (NASB)

⁴ "For the word of the LORD is upright, And all His work is *done* in faithfulness." Psalm 33:4 (NIV)

⁴ "For the word of the LORD is right and true; he is faithful in all he does." 1 Corinthians 9:16 (NASB)

¹⁶ "For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for I am under compulsion; for woe is me if I do not preach the gospel."

Contentment. God gives peace when we accept His choices for us (<u>Isaiah 26:3</u>). Isaiah 26:3 (NASB)

³ "The steadfast of mind You will keep in perfect peace, Because he trusts in You."

With your instruction book in hand, are you watching for the "**road signs**" that God places in your path? The heavenly Father does not want you to miss His perfect will for your life.