

Hindrances to Knowing God's Will

Romans 12:1-2

Romans 12:1-2 (NASB)

¹ “Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is your spiritual service of worship.*

² “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”

The Bible tells us that God's will is good, acceptable, and perfect in every way ([Romans 12:2](#)).

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To live life at its spiritual best, we need to discover His plans and desires for us, and then we must walk in them every day. And yet certain hindrances can prevent our discerning His intentions for us.

Self-will. We are our own biggest obstacle. We're born into this world with a fallen nature that likes to have its own way and be its own master. To follow God's plan, we need to surrender our rights to *Him* and embrace *His* ways. We must choose every day to let Him rule over our thought life, emotions, families, work, and decisions. Surrendering to God means victory; clinging to our own ideas brings defeat. (See [1 Corinthians 15:57](#).)

1 Corinthians 15:57 (NASB)

⁵⁷ “But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Ignorance of God's principles. We are easily tripped up when we do not know what is important to the Lord and what we should avoid. Our minds can be changed from worldly to godly only with a steady application of Scripture. Without the light of biblical guidance, we will wander away from God's plan ([Psalm 119:105](#)).

Psalm 119:105 (NASB)

¹⁰⁵ “Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.”

Influence of others. People have lots of opinions about what we ought to do and how God would want us to behave. Unless we are extremely careful, we will act to satisfy them. In fact, we might find ourselves out of God's will because we put others ahead of the Lord.

If we abandon ourselves to God's care, then “self” will be subdued, a hunger for His Word will grow, and we will live to please Him, not others. Have you given the “**throne of your life**” to Him?