



HOW TO LIVE BY THE WILL OF GOD

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Introduction:

God's will be not a mystery meant to frustrate us. It is His loving plan and purpose for our lives. Living by God's will means daily choosing His way over our own.

(Romans 12:2) "Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will."

Believers need to understand:

- *What the will of God is.*
- *How to recognize God's will.*
- *Practical ways to walk in God's will every day.*
- *The blessings that come from living according to God's will.*

What Is the Will of God?

The will of God is God's desire, purpose, and plan for our lives. It includes both his revealed will in Scripture and His guidance for our daily decisions.

(Jeremiah 29:11) For I know the plans I have for you.

- God's plans are intentional and filled with hope.

(Ephesians 5:17) Therefore do not be foolish but understand what the Lord's will is.

- God expects believers to seek and understand His will.
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1. Surrender Your Life to God

(Romans 12:1) Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

- Living in God's will begins with surrender.
- Before God can direct your life, he must first have your life.
- Jesus demonstrated this perfectly.

(Luke 22:42) Not my will, but Yours be done.

Questions

- What areas of your life are hardest to surrender?
- Why does surrender come before guidance?

Application

Every morning pray: "Lord, my life belongs to You. Lead me today."

2. Renew Your Mind with God's Word

(Romans 12:2) "Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will."

- The world teaches one way.

- God teaches another.
- You cannot think like the world and expect to live God's will.

What are the patterns of this world?

a. Self-centeredness instead of God-centeredness

The world teaches:

- "Do what makes you happy."
- "Put yourself first."
- "Follow your heart."

God teaches:

- Deny yourself.
- Take up your cross.
- Follow Christ (**Luke 9:23**).

b. Pride and self-exaltation

The world celebrates:

- Pride
- Self-promotion
- Fame
- Recognition

God calls us to:

- Humility
- Servanthood
- Giving Him the glory (**James 4:6; Philippians 2:3–8**).

c. Sexual immorality

The world normalizes:

- Lust
- Pornography
- Adultery
- Sex outside God's design

God calls believers to:

- Purity
- Faithfulness
- Honoring Him with their bodies **(1 Corinthians 6:18–20)**.

(Psalm 119:105) Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

(Joshua 1:8) Meditating on Scripture helps us think God's thoughts.

Application

- Replace worldly thinking with biblical thinking.

Ask yourself:

- What does God's Word say about this?
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3. Seek God's Direction Through Prayer

(Proverbs 3:5–6) Trust in the Lord with all your heart and he shall direct your paths.

- Prayer is where we receive God's direction.

(Philippians 4:6–7) Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- Instead of worrying, pray.
- God gives peace that guides our decisions.

(James 1:5) If you lack wisdom.

Ask God.

He gives generously.

4. Walk in Obedience

- Knowing God's will means little if we refuse to obey it.

(John 14:15) "If you love Me, keep My commandments."

(James 1:22) Be doers of the Word.

- Not hearers only.
 - Delayed obedience is still disobedience.
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5. Be Led by the Holy Spirit

(Romans 8:14) "Those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God."

The Holy Spirit:

- Convicts
- Guides
- Teaches
- Comforts
- Gives wisdom
- Produces spiritual fruit

(Galatians 5:16) So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

- Walk by the Spirit.
 - Don't satisfy the flesh.
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6. Trust God's Timing

- Many people know God's promise but become impatient with God's process.

(Ecclesiastes 3:1) There is a season for everything.

(Isaiah 40:31) Those who wait upon the Lord...

- Renew their strength.

(Psalm 27:14)

- Wait on the Lord.
 - God is never late.
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7. Surround Yourself with Godly Counsel

(Proverbs 11:14) There is safety in many counselors.

(Proverbs 15:22) Plans succeed with wise counsel.

- God often confirms His will through mature believers.
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8. Put God's Kingdom First

(Matthew 6:33) "Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness."

When God is first:

- Everything else falls into place.
 - Living by God's will means living for God's purposes—not our own ambitions.
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Things That Can Keep You Out of God's Will

- Pride
- Fear
- Disobedience
- Bitterness
- Unforgiveness
- Worldliness
- Sin
- Impatience
- Selfish ambition
- Ignoring the Holy Spirit

(Isaiah 59:2) Sin creates distance between us and God.

Blessings of Living in God's Will

(Psalm 1:1–3) You'll be like a tree planted by streams of water.

Proverbs 3:5–6

- God directs your path.

Romans 8:28

- God works everything together for good.

John 10:10

- Jesus gives abundant life.

Psalm 37:23

- The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord.

Practical Daily Steps

1. Begin every day with prayer.
2. Read and meditate on Scripture.
3. Ask the Holy Spirit for guidance.
4. Obey immediately.
5. Stay connected to your church family.
6. Repent quickly when you sin.
7. Trust God even when you don't understand.

Lesson Takeaways

- God's will begin with surrender.
- God's Word reveals God's will.
- Prayer invites God's direction.
- The Holy Spirit leads those who follow Him.
- Obedience positions us to experience God's blessings.

- God's timing is always perfect.
 - Living by God's will brings peace, purpose, and spiritual fruit.
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Closing Challenge

This week, before making any significant decision, pause and ask these four questions:

1. Does God's Word support this decision?
2. Have I prayed and sought the Holy Spirit's guidance?
3. Will this choice glorify God?
4. Am I willing to obey even if God's answer is different from what I want?

Conclusion

When believers consistently surrender their hearts, renew their minds with Scripture, seek God in prayer, and obey His leading, they discover that God's will is not a burden but a pathway to joy, purpose, peace, and spiritual maturity. As Jesus taught us, our daily prayer should be, **"Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven"** (Matthew 6:10).