

## Crucial Questions

### How Can I Know and Do God's Will for My Life?

Knowing the will of God is very complex on one hand, and very simple on the other. On the simplistic side, here are two ways to determine God's will:

1. Obey God's commands.
2. Do What you Want.

- Obeying God's commands include some of the following:
  - Abiding in Christ - Read John 15:4
  - Loving your enemies - Read Matthew 5:43-48
  - Honoring Commitments - Read Matthew 5:37
- How do you know it's the Holy Spirit giving you direction and not: fear, anxiety, your own desires, the pizza you ate last night? (Hint: One of the major ways to discern God's will is that it will never go against one of God's commands in Scripture).
- Read Acts 15:36-41. What do you do when you and another brother or sister in Christ each feel God giving a different answer or direction? How do you see God's will being portrayed in the story of Paul and Barnabas?

There are 5 ingredients to trying to discern God's will:

1. Prayer - Read Phil 4:6
2. Preference - What do you want? Have you ever been stuck in making a decision because you didn't even know what you wanted? Have you asked God to show you your heart's desire?
3. Wise/Godly counsel - Read Prov. 12:15. Have you ever allowed another trusted person be the primary voice over the voice of God?
4. Trial and Error - Sometimes we need to take action to determine God's will. Can you think of an example of figuring out God's will in this way?
5. Humility - Read James 4:6. How does this 'ingredient' supersede the others?

## Community Group Discussion Questions

### RESPONSE:

#### Caution:

- The more emotionally tied you are to a decision, the tougher it will be.
- The more people the decision affects, the tougher it will be.
- H.A.L.T (hungry, angry, lonely, tired) when making tough decisions.
- Personal question: Are you doing what you know is God's will right now in your life?

### PRAY

Pray to be obedient to the Lord and to enjoy the freedom in making decisions when doing so. Pray for discernment and wisdom. Pray for confidence in trusting the leading of the Holy Spirit.