

(D1: The Heart, D2: The Home, D3: Ministry) Biblical Decision Making and the Fallacy of "Finding" God's Will

The Wellspring Purpose and Disciplines:

Introduction:

I. God's will in Scripture.

1. God's revealed will.

➔ *God's commands reveal His will.*

Matthew 7:21.

1 Thessalonians 5:18.

1 Thessalonians 4:3.

➔ *God's broad intentions for believers reveal His will.*

Romans 12:2.

➔ *God's plan for human history reveals His will.*

Galatians 1:4.

Ephesians 1:9-10.

Summary:

2. God's unrevealed will.

Proverbs 16:1, 3, 9; 19:21; 20:24.

Romans 15:30-32; 1:9-10.

Acts 18:20-21; 1 Corinthians 4:18-19.

James 4:13-15.

Deuteronomy 29:29.

Conclusion:

II. Man-centered attempts to “find God’s will” in decision making.

1. The purely pragmatic approach.
2. The “lucky-dip” approach with Scripture.
3. The prophecy approach.
4. The peaceful approach.
5. The opened or closed door approach.

6. The sign-seeking approach.

Observations and Conclusions:

III. Decision making informed by Scripture.

1. In God's strength, be obedient to God's revealed will (commands, broad intentions).

2. Pray for wisdom.

3. Gather information and counsel.

4. Does the Bible speak directly to my decision?

5. How does the Bible speak indirectly to my decision?

6. Humbly follow your desire and decide.