



## Sermon Notes: How Do I Know God's Will?

### 1. What is the will of God?

- a. The sovereign will of God.
- b. The moral will of God.
- c. The individual will of God.

### 2. Why do you want to know it?

### 3. How should you not go about finding God's will?

- a. Circumstances alone.
- b. Feelings alone.
- c. Advice alone.
- d. "Revelation" alone.
- e. Outcomes alone.

### 4. How can you know God's will?

- a. Study God's Word to know Christ.
- b. Walk in repentance and faith.
- c. Seek wisdom.
- d. Associate with and learn from the wise.
- e. Take the next right step in faith.



## Gospel Applications: How Do I Know God's Will?

1. When you think of "finding God's will" for your life, what do you mean? What is it that you're looking/listening for?
2. Prior to this message, what were the primary ways you went about discovering God's will?
3. Think of a time when you were completely convinced you'd found God's will concerning a specific decision or event in your life. What convinced you that this was God's individual will for you? What happened? In hindsight, do you think you were right?
4. Imagine you lived 500 years ago in an arranged marriage. Your vocation was to do whatever your parents did. You had very few options of what you'd eat, what you'd wear, where you'd go, or even what church you'd attend. How do you think Christians in that culture would think differently about God's will than we do today?
5. Why do you think Christians today are so fixated on finding God's individual, personalized, designer will for their lives? How is this fixation a reflection of larger trends in our culture?
6. Does God speak to Christians today? If so, where or how? Let's say, for the sake of argument, you believed God had spoken to you personally and directly outside of the Bible. How would you know for certain that was actually God?
7. Which caution under Point #3 resonated the most with you? Why? How do you think that'll change the way you go about seeking God's will in the future?
8. We all make literally thousands of spontaneous decisions every single day. How would each of the three views of finding God's will (Traditional, Charismatic, and Wisdom) expect you make spontaneous decisions? Which of them is the only tenable option for life in the real world?
9. Apply the Wisdom View to an actual decision you need to make soon. How are the character and commands of Christ relevant to that decision? How do the purposes and priorities of God factor in? With whom have you processed this decision – and how did you give them permission to disagree with you? Having processed your decision this way, how are you now free and confident in Christ to take the next right step in faith?