

GOD'S WORD

KNOWING GOD'S WILL

Living in the presence of Almighty God

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CHRISTIANS CAN TEND to be very concerned, at times, worried that they might not be doing God's will, but they should be at peace: as long as they are not living in sin, consciously living in disobedience to God, and ignoring their conscience and what they know is right, they will be automatically already doing His will for them! After we are Born Again, and as we live a life drawing closer to Him, He will be making us more like Him, and changing our heart, into doing what He wants us to do, in general, and specifically. While we are more concerned with *His* will, God is more concerned with *our* will! If we are *willing* to do His will, we will automatically do it, whether consciously, or unconsciously!

13 For it is God Which worketh in you both to **will** and to **do** of His good pleasure.

Philippians 2:13 The BIBLE

So that, perhaps without even realizing it, we will automatically be living in His will, and doing His good pleasure! It is said that,

“When you are a Christian, you can do whatever you want; it's just that when you are a Christian, your wants change!”

11 And He (*God*) said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the LORD was not in the earthquake:

12 And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.

I Kings 19:11-12 The BIBLE

Listen, *and obey* His voice when He's speaking to you in the *small* things, in your conscience, in the quiet voice of the Holy Spirit, where He guides you in all things. We are mistaken when we seek God's guidance through big things. Usually, God speaks in the spectacular only to the disobedient, when He has to get our stubborn attention:

1 And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,
2 And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.
3 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:
4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?

Acts 9:1-4 The BIBLE

For this reason, generally the only time we will have to get conscious direction from Him is when we are *not* doing His will, when He has to correct us, and direct us *back into* His will! That is the reason that Saul had to hear the voice of God from heaven; he was so stubborn and sinful in his actions that speaking to Saul audibly was the only way that God could get his attention, and turn him around!

21 And thine ears shall hear a Word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

Isaiah 30:21 The BIBLE

If we do not hear God's voice audibly, it is usually because we are on the right track! If we are not living in sin, and routinely disobeying Him, all we need to do is to ask Him to guide us; then we will automatically be doing His will.

5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, That giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.
6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.
7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.
8 A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

James 1:5-8 The BIBLE

So all we need to do is ask our Heavenly Father for direction. If we are sincere in wanting to know and do His will, He will make sure that we are doing His will.

We *know* when He's speaking to us; but He guides us only when we *obey* His voice. Often, the difficulty isn't in *hearing* God's voice, but in *obeying* Him. For this reason, being led by God isn't in the hearing of His voice, as much as it's in obeying His voice, whether it's in Scripture, or in conscience, or in doing what He is telling us to do, right now! When God speaks to you in His still, small voice, 1) don't doubt Him, and 2) don't, "split hairs;" those are satan's tricks:

1 Now the serpent (*satan*) was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, YEA, HATH GOD SAID, Ye shall not eat of EVERY tree of the garden?

Genesis 3:1 The BIBLE

Often, our asking God for His will is merely an attempt to get a *different* answer from Him than the one we already have! We may ask, "Is that *really* God's voice speaking to me? (- satan's original sin.)

Obedience also includes obeying the SPIRIT of God's Word or message to us, not merely the *letter*! If our Heavenly Father tells us, "No," when we are wanting to do something, we are not obeying Him if we merely change our plans a little. Our Heavenly Father wants our *heart*, and not merely a mechanical and slave-ish obedience in begrudged and unwilling submission to merely His exact Word.

2 Blessed are they that keep His testimonies, and that seek Him with the whole heart.

Psalms 119:2 The BIBLE

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.

20 For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

Romans 1:18-21 The BIBLE

Receive God's guidance in faith and obedience. Our Heavenly Father speaks to the *heart*, not to the ears! When the *heart* is willing and open, we can hear His voice. When it is closed, we hear nothing.

"God speaks to the man who cares."