

## How can I know what God wants me to do?

Discerning the will of God is a topic that is often raised up by Christians. Each of us wants to do what God wants us to do but sometimes struggle over the details.

1. How does God communicate His desires and His intentions toward me?

Deuteronomy **6:1-3**  
1 Thessalonians **2:13**  
Philippians **4:6-7**

Ephesians **4:11-15**  
Deuteronomy 4:29-30  
Proverbs **11:14**

There are three basic ways that God communicates His desires toward people. First, and most important and stable, is the Word of God; the Bible. Second is through prayer and seeking to listen to what God is communicating. Prayer is to be handled in conjunction with His word. Third is through the counsel of other Christians who are continuously in the Word of God themselves. There are some safeguards regarding these voices of God that will be expressed later.

2. In general terms, what does God tell us He wants from me?

Micah **6:8**  
1 John **5:2-4**  
Ephesians 4:1-3

Deuteronomy **10:12-13**  
Psalm **46:10**  
Colossians **1:9-12**

In the most general of desires from God, God wants us to seek after Him, through word, prayer, counsel. By these, we are called to respect (fear), honor, and obey His commands. We are called to trust Him. We need to know that some events that happen in our lives are unpleasant but we need to trust God and to know that God has a larger plan to use troubling events in our lives for His purpose and glory.

3. Where do I look for more details regarding what God wants from me?

Romans **8:27-28**  
Romans **12:3-10**

Isaiah **28:9-13**

Many of the details of life, God does not communicate with us. He has given us His word so that we may know what God expects of us and the people of God to act as counselors. God's word does NOT give specifics on where to go to school, what degree to pursue, who to marry, how many children to have, where to work, what city to live in, and the like. What God's word DOES give is are the principles to use when addressing these questions. The reality is that God has created each one of us with unique gifts and talents that are to be used for the building up of the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:11-15). We need to seek the abilities and interests that God has placed within us to be exercised for His honor and glory.

4. What shall I do each day as decisions need to be made?

2 Timothy **2:15-16**  
Romans **13:8-10**

1 John **4:1**

If we continually seek after understanding the wisdom found in God's word, through reading and studying the scriptures, we will continually draw closer to understanding God and God's desires. As we view God's commandments as being intended for our best interest then we will desire to obey His commandments knowing that they will only accomplish good in our lives. As we learn to love those around us, even the unlovable ones, we will begin the process of living more and more like Jesus lived and lives since it was His love that loved us although we were, and are, completely unworthy of that love He showed us. We too can love those who are unloving and unlovable.