

NYC: Discerning God's Will

- **BIG Questions:** Work? Date? Major?

Rom 12:1-2 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Do I Know God? Here's God's Will: "Present body as living sacrifice" Worship

- JC is more valuable than \$, Work, Sex, Sports... Chief end of man "Know Him & Enjoy Him Forever"
- "Don't be conformed"... Not "Transform self"... I Cor 15:21
- "New Mind" Not behavior modification... New mind
- "Discern" Detect & Delight... Know & Enjoy... Learn & Like

What is God's Will?

1. Sovereign: What comes to pass... Can't be disobeyed

- Eph 1:11 "him who works all things according to the counsel of his will"
- Matt 10:29 "Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father."
- Prov 16:33 "The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord."

2. Command: What God commands... Often disobeyed

- 1 Thess 4:3 "For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality"
- Look at porn/hook up, broken the will of God... 10 Commandments

IMPORTANT: You need both aspects of God's will.

- Alleppo? Abuse? "Was that God's will?"
- Command: "Don't do that, I command you not to, I hate this"
- Sovereign: "God can turn anything into good"
- Need a God who hates and sovereign over evil

How Can I Know God's Will?

1. Know the Word

- "Who needs a voice when you have a verse?"... "Renewed Mind" Filled w/ Word & Prayer
- 2 Tim 3:16: "Every Good work"... Good, Acceptable, Perfect... Mind is shaped by Word
- 90% of Life isn't premeditated... No Pro/Con, Deliberate... Open a door? TV Show? Eat this bite?
- Exercise before Spring Break... Want to make JC decisions? Live for JC every day

2. Know Your Self

- **Gifts:** Why would God call you to something He hasn't gifted you in?
- 1 Pet 4:10 "Each has received a gift, use it to serve one another"
- How does this profit others not self? Highest Satisfaction: WWII "Working for all"
- Find your niche... What you love to do, energizes you, according to strengths
- What can you do that no one else can do? Ppl ask advice? For help?
- **Passions:** What do you love? Enjoy? Pleasure?
- Put most of your energies and your love there for Christ and his kingdom.
- **Skills:** Finance, Carpentry, Writing, Coaching
- **Need Local Church:** Essential to be in church... Need elders to confirm this call

3. Know the Needs in World

- Begins w/ inability to accept things the way they are... Discontent status quo
- Begins "could be done"... Becomes "should be done"... Eventually "must be done" *Moral Imperative*
- You don't own burden, It owns you... **Vision takes time**... Not flash in pan, Return to again and again? Compelling?
- See a need that moves you deeply? Pound your fist on the table?
- Give serious thought, prayer, fasting... What is my LIFE GOAL?

4. Do It For God Glory

- Bottom Line: 18th Century GB... Abolish slave trade at major cost... Voluntary Econocide