

God loves you, and He wants you to know His will. Seek it . . . discover it . . . and then do it. His way is always best.

- Billy Graham

KANAKUK
INSTITUTE



GOD'S WILL

SOVEREIGN WILL



REVEALED WILL



SPECIFIC WILL

JAMES 1:5-6

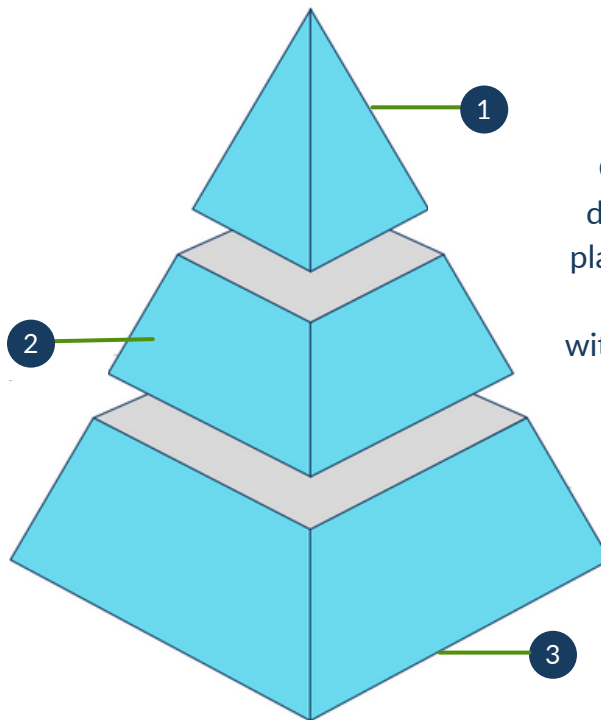
"But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind"

UNDERSTANDING GOD'S WILL

God's Revealed Will

God's Revealed Will is his clearly defined will for our lives. It encompasses obedience and faithfulness to His Word and supercedes emotional and circumstantial influences in our lives.

*Micah 6:8, 1 Thessalonians 4:3;
1 Thess 5:16-18, 1 Peter 2:15-17,
1 Peter 3:15-17, Ephesians 5:15-20,
Romans 12:1-2*



God's Specific Will

God's Specific Will for our lives is driven by our desire to know God's plan for our lives and to be obedient. We can not truly know this will without a knowledge of His Sovereign and Revealed Will.

God's Sovereign Will

God's Sovereign Will informs our entire understanding of will. It is defined by His character and his over-arching plan in humanity for redemption. This is the base of our understanding of His Will.

*Ephesians 1:11, Galatians 1:4, Isaiah 46:9-10, Isaiah 55:8-9,
Job 42:1-4, Genesis 37-50, Genesis 50:20*

HEBREWS 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE ON GOD'S WILL

That you BE SAVED.

- **1 Tim 2:1-4:** First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, 2 for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. 3 This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
- **2 Peter 3:9:** The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

That you BE FILLED with the SPIRIT.

- **Ephesians 5:17-18:** Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. 18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit

That you BE SANCTIFIED.

- **1 Thessalonians 4:3-8:** For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, 5 not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; 6 that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. 7 For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. 8 Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

That you BE SUBMISSIVE.

- **1 Peter 2:13-15:** Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, 14 or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. 15 For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people.

That you SUFFER.

- **1 Peter 3:17:** For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.
- **Philippians 1:29:** For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake

That you BE OBEDIENT.

- **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. 2 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 (**as an act of worship**).
- **Ephesians 6:5-6:** Slaves, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, 6 not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart (**from the heart**).
- **Colossians 1:9-10:** And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, 10 so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God (**as a way of life**).
- **Colossians 4:12:** Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers, that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God (as a way of life).
- **Hebrews 13:20-21:** Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen (**by the Spirit's enabling**).

HOW TO KNOW

1. Surrender personal desires
2. Meditate on God's Word
3. Spend focused time in prayer
4. Seek Godly counsel
5. Consider your circumstances
6. Think through logically
7. Trust God with the outcome

If we are not embracing what God has already made clear, it is foolish to ask Him to give us clarity on something He has not made clear.