**“Knowing and Doing God’s Will”**

**God’s Word teaches that He has a plan for each of our lives, and that plan unfolds as we stay close to Him and make wise decisions. To know God’s will we must know God’s Word because. . .**

#  I. God’s Word is BEST Source for God’s Direction

* **All - SUFFICIENT** (2 Timothy 3:16; Psalm 119:105)
* **More Trustworthy Than INNER-PEACE** (Colossians 3:15)
* **More Trustworthy Than CIRCUMSTANCES** (Joshua 9)

 **II. God’s Word Gives SPECIFIC Direction**

* **To Be SPIRIT-FILLED** (Ephesians 5:17-18; 1 Thessalonians 5:18)
* **To Be SANCTIFIED** (1 Thessalonians 4:3; Romans 12:1-2)
* **To Be SUBMISSIVE** (1 Peter 2:13-15)

## III. God’s Word Gives STEPS for Decision-Making

* **Prayer/Worship Throughout** (Psalm 5:8; 25:5; 31:3)
* **Gather Facts & Evaluate** (Proverbs 18:13)
* **Search out Scriptural Principles** (Joshua 1:8; Psalm 119:105)
* **Consider Godly Counsel** (Psalm 1:1-2; Proverbs 24:6)
* **At Times, Your Preference** (Psalm 37:4)
* **If Question of Sin, Wait** (Romans 14:22-23)
* **Decide by Faith & Go with Confidence** (James 1:5-6;

 Hebrews 11:6)

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**Small Group Discussion Guide**

**1. Share something from Sunday’s study that was the most interesting or**

 **challenging to you or that raised a question.**

**2. Explain Psalm 119:105 and 2 Timothy 3:16 in your own words. What**

 **are some ways that people seek God’s leading apart from His Word?**

**3. Is following God’s leading on life’s journey more like using a map or a**

 **GPS? Explain your answer.**

**4. What is the difference between God’s Directive Will and His Decreed**

 **Will? Which one are we responsible to know and pursue? What are**

 **some things that are SPECIFICALLY and CLEARLY declared in Scripture**

 **to be God’s will for us?**

**5. Is it possible for us to “miss” God’s will for our lives? If not, why not?**

 **If so, how? What should we do if we realize that we have made a poor**

 **decision and are now facing difficult consequences?**

**Digging Deeper:**

**1. What is a decision you are facing (or will be facing) in the near future?**

 **Apply the “Steps for Good Decision Making” (part 3 of sermon) by**

 **jotting down what you will do for each step.**

**2. What do the following verses say about the importance of obtaining**

 **godly counsel for your decisions? (Psalm 1:1-2; Proverbs 11:14; 12:15;**

 **13:10; 15:22; 19:20; 20:18) List the top three people you would consult**

 **when faced with an important decision? Why these three?**

**3. What are some things that you can KNOW FOR SURE are God’s will for**

 **you according to these verses – Ephesians 5:17-19; 1 Thessalonians 4:3;**

 **5:18;1 Peter 2:13-15; Romans 12:1-2? How are you doing in each of**

 **these areas?**

**4. What can we learn about knowing God’s will from Paul’s prayer in**

 **Philippians 1:9-11 and Colossians 1:9-12?**