

Praying the Will of God

Discussion Question:

1. *What is the will of God?*
2. *How do you know when you're in God's will?*
3. *How do you discern God's guidance in prayer?*
4. *Do you have a testimony of how God's will has manifested in your life?*

Praying God's Will

In the Our Father prayer, Jesus taught us to start by recognizing God as our Father and then ask for His kingdom to come and His will to be done (Matthew 6:9-14). But what exactly is God's will?

The Bible reveals God's will through its teachings and stories. By reading and reflecting on Scripture, we can gain insight into what God desires for our lives and how we should live.

We know that Jesus only did God's will. He said in John 5:19, *"Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing."*

Jesus also promised us that we can understand God's will because He considers us friends, not just followers. As He says in John 15:15, *"I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you."*

Additionally, the Holy Spirit helps us know God's will. Jesus told us in John 16:13, *"But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come."*

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So, with the guidance of Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the wisdom found in the Bible, we can understand and follow God's will more clearly as we seek it in prayer and through our relationship with God.

Reflection Questions

1. **Based on Jesus' instructions in the Our Father prayer**—*“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one”* (Matthew 6:9-13)—**what is the will of God that He is referring to in this prayer?**
2. How does Jesus demonstrate God's will in John 5:19?
3. How does the Holy Spirit help us stay in God's will?
4. **How does aligning your life with God's will impact your relationships with others?** Reflect on how living according to God's will influences the way you interact with family, friends, and your community.
5. **What role does surrendering your personal desires play in understanding and following God's will?** Consider moments when you've had to let go of your own plans to embrace what you believe to be God's direction.