

# GOD'S WILL

HOW TO FIND IT AND KNOW IT

**HOT**  
  
**SHOTS**

God's Will: How to Find It and Know It

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**T**eens face a bewildering lineup of decisions in the few short years after they graduate from high school. Decisions about college, vocation, and marriage can seem overwhelming to the teen that sincerely wants to know God's will.

Without proper guidance, this overwhelming feeling can turn into paralyzing fear. Satan would love for us to second-guess our whole lives. It would keep us from being effective in God's service. Questions like what if I miss God's will?, what if I'm not supposed to go to this college?, or what if I'm marrying the wrong person? can haunt the sincere Christian.

Fortunately, God has not given us the spirit of fear (2 Timothy 1:7). We can make decisions that honor God and that are in His will. You have the opportunity to teach teens Bible truth about God's will. Understanding this complex topic from God's Word can give your teens the confidence they need to make decisions regarding major life issues.

## LESSON FORMAT

Hot Shots are written with a firm belief that the Word of God is the primary life-changing element that the Holy Spirit uses to do His work. You can be assured that we will not depend upon psychology, values clarification, touchy-feely questions, or humanistic methods. We stand unashamedly upon *the Word of God, which is quick and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword.*

While the writing staff at Positive Action For Christ understands that all of our lessons must be centered in the Bible, we also see the need for helping the teacher by including creative teaching ideas. These creative ideas are simply sermon illustrations taken one step further. Instead of talking about opening a window in an illustration, we ask you to open it. Instead of imagining how destructive the tongue can be, we will do an object lesson to show you. These ideas will enhance your lesson and help the teens grasp the truth of God's Word better.

Our belief is that through object lessons and illustrations we are better able to mimic the teaching of Jesus Christ. He depended wholly upon the Scriptures as the content of the lesson, but He also used coins, trees, water, and more to illustrate His teaching.



The **Warm-up** opens the door of the student's mind to the main lesson. This may include handouts, object lessons, or a stimulating question.



The **Bridge** transitions the teen from the warm-up into the main text of Scripture that you will be teaching that day.



The **Content** is the main body of the lesson which focuses on Bible exposition and application.



The **Closing** summarizes the lesson and calls for a commitment to the truth.

Each Hotshot follows the same lesson format throughout the study.

In this Hot Shot you will find Scripture memory verses which complement the lessons. We believe that Scripture memory is an excellent tool with which the Holy Spirit sanctifies and guides Christians today.

## BEFORE YOU START THE STUDY...

Read the Introduction, Course Objectives, and Overview. It is important that you understand the scope of this study before you promote it.

## BEFORE EACH LESSON...

1. Read through the lesson and take note of the Lesson Aim, Objectives, and materials needed for creative teaching segments.
2. Plan ahead to modify the lesson if necessary. Your facilities or equipment may limit you. Substitute your own ideas if necessary.
3. Each lesson is designed to be taught in 20–30 minutes. Preparation will enable you to shorten or lengthen the lesson to meet your time limit.
4. Use excitement when you teach! An excited teacher produces students who are excited about learning. If you can't get excited about a creative teaching idea or a warm-up, develop your own that will work with your teens.

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

### BY THE END OF THIS COURSE THE TEENS WILL:

- Understand that God cares about their lives
- Recognize some popular pitfalls on the road to good decision-making
- Determine if they are obeying biblical basics for finding God's will
- Know some biblical principles that apply to their major life decisions

## OVERVIEW

- **Lesson 1:** Defining God's Will  
Lesson Aim: To convince teens that the phrase "God's will" has three definitions.  
Texts: Acts 2:23; 2 Peter 3:9; Psalm 37:23
- **Lesson 2:** Avoiding Popular Pitfalls, Part 1  
Lesson Aim: To expose the problems of some common methods for determining God's will.  
Texts: Job 23:1–10; Jeremiah 17:9; Revelation 22:18–19
- **Lesson 3:** Avoiding Popular Pitfalls, Part 2  
Lesson Aim: To expose the problems of some common methods for determining God's will.  
Texts: Judges 6; Acts 27
- **Lesson 4:** Understanding The Basics  
Lesson Aim: To teach biblical prerequisites for determining God's will.  
Texts: 1 Timothy 2:3–4; 2 Peter 3:9; Ephesians 5:17–18; 1 Thessalonians 4:3–7; Romans 12:1–2; 1 Peter 2:13–18; 3:8–17; 4:12–19; 1 Thessalonians 5:18
- **Lesson 5:** Applying The Principles  
Lesson Aim: To establish principles for making decisions.  
Texts: Matthew 6:33, James 1:5–8; Proverbs 11:14; 15:22; 19:20; Luke 14:28–33; 2 Timothy 1:7

## ADDITIONAL RESEARCH

These books are helpful for further study on this topic. The fact that they are listed here does not mean that Positive Action For Christ agrees with everything in them. However, they do discuss this subject in much more detail.

Friesen, Garry & J. Robin Maxson. *Decision Making & The Will of God: A Biblical Alternative To The Traditional View*. (Portland: Multnomah, 1980).

Petty, James C. *Step By Step: Divine Guidance For Ordinary Christians*. (Phillipsburg, NJ: Presbyterian & Reformed Publishing, 1999).

Robinson, Haddon W. *Decision Making By The Book: How To Choose Wisely In An Age Of Options*. (Grand Rapids: Discovery House, 1998).

Smith, M. Blaine. *Knowing God's Will: Finding Guidance For Personal Decisions*. (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1991).

# LESSON 1

## DEFINING GOD'S WILL

I have lived in several areas of the country in my life. I grew up in Wisconsin where we call carbonated beverages *pop*. I lived for a few years in Pennsylvania where they called them *soda*. Now I live in North Carolina and they call them *drink*.

When I tell my friends from North Carolina or Pennsylvania that I'd like a pop, they think that's a funny term for carbonated beverages. If I were to go back to Wisconsin and tell my parents that I was going out to get a drink, they would be thinking of alcoholic beverages. That's what the term means in Wisconsin.

It is important to define your terms. This lesson will help your teens understand what the phrase "God's will" means. Once they understand how this term is used, they can begin to pursue His will.

**Lesson Aim:** To convince teens that the phrase "God's will" has three definitions.

**Objectives:** The teens will...

- Evaluate how they search for God's will
- Understand why Christians are uncertain regarding God's will
- Be able to define God's sovereign will, moral will, and individual will
- Recognize their individuality

**Texts:** Acts 2:23; 2 Peter 3:9; Psalm 37:23

Acts 2:23 teaches us that God's sovereign plan included the death of Christ. It was not a mistake, and it could not have been avoided. Second Peter 3:9 tells us that God's will includes the salvation of every person. Unfortunately, not every person will accept God's will for their life. Psalm 37:23 tells us that God directs the steps of a good man. He has a concern about our decisions.

**What You Need:** Two blindfolds, a bag of candy, a candy bar, two tape players, two preaching tapes by two different preachers, copies of "Interviewing Yourself" and "Scripture Memory," pens or pencils, and paper

# THE LESSON

**Warm up: Option #1**—(What you need: two blindfolds, a bag of candy, and a candy bar) Divide your students into two teams and get a volunteer from each team. Blindfold the two volunteers and have them leave the room. Take the candy bar and hide it somewhere in your classroom in full view of the teens. Tell the teens that they need to shout directions to their blindfolded teammate so he can find the candy bar. If their teammate finds it first, then they will get the bag of candy. Bring the volunteers in and start the search. It should dissolve into chaos rather quickly with everyone shouting directions.



Ask “How is this blindfold search like finding God’s will?” (Sometimes we think it is hidden. We wonder why God doesn’t just tell us. We get so distracted by the noise of others that we can’t hear God. Sometimes the directions from others are contradictory.)

**Option #2**—(What you need: two tape players and two preaching tapes by two different preachers) Turn on the two tape players so that they are both competing with your voice. Then begin talking in a general way about the subject of God’s will. After a minute or two turn off the tape players.

Ask “How is listening to me while the tape players play like trying to find God’s will for your life? (It’s hard to hear God with all the distractions. We may get conflicting counsel.)

**Bridge:** Sometimes a teen can find it very difficult to determine God’s will for major life decisions. They may want to know where they should go to college, what occupation will be their life’s work, or whether God wants them in full time ministry. Sometimes when they try to get answers, they just get frustrated. This may be because they don’t understand that God has three wills for their life. It is important to define what we mean by the phrase “God’s will.”



## Content:

**Question:** Why is it so hard to determine God’s will for our decisions? Why can’t we tell if we’ve found God’s will in our decision?

- Certainty: “Why can’t God just tell me like He did the prophets in the OT?” It seems like it would be easier if God just spoke audibly to us.

**Question:** Would you doubt if God told you audibly what His will for your life was? You might because even David (1 Samuel 23:1–5) and Gideon (Judges 6:14, 36–40) doubted what God had told them to do.

- Confusion: “They’re all good choices.” Maybe you know that God wants you to go to a Christian college. How do you know which one?
- Conflicting advice: Sometimes when you get counsel for your decision, you will get advice from two different people that seems contradictory. For example, Set out the pros and cons and determine the most logical choice or God’s will is often illogical (Abraham didn’t know where he was going when he left)? Love God and do what you wish or deny your desires? God will impress your heart or don’t trust your feelings?<sup>1</sup>

**Question:** What do we mean by the phrase “will of God” or “God’s will.” Some have explained it by saying that this phrase can be used three ways.



<sup>1</sup> M. Blaine Smith, *Knowing God’s Will: Finding Guidance For Personal Decisions*. (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1991), 19.

## GOD'S SOVEREIGN WILL

God does have a will with regard to the course of this world that will be fulfilled (Acts 2:23; 4:27–28; Revelation 13:8). This is a determined will in the sense that it will happen. Examples of this are the death of Christ, His Second Coming, and the coming Antichrist. These are all events in the past or future that must happen. Nothing man can do could keep those events from happening.

Further, since God knows all, He knows what will happen in our lives even before it happens. He knows what we will choose before we choose it. We choose it freely, but God already knows what choices we will make.

## GOD'S MORAL WILL

This is the will that God has for every person that may or may not be fulfilled (Matthew 23:37–38). This is His desired will that is written in God's Word, and this can be frustrated. It may or may not happen. The greatest example of this is God's desire that all people be saved (2 Peter 3:9). This hasn't happened and won't happen. But God still desires it.

God's moral will for each of you in this classroom is to stay sexually pure (1 Thessalonians 4:3). However, not all teens do. Some teens don't obey God's moral will.

This moral will of God includes (these points will be revisited in greater detail in lesson 4):

- Salvation (1 Timothy 2:3–4; 2 Peter 3:9)
- Spirit-filling (Ephesians 5:17–18)
- Sanctification (1 Thessalonians 4:3–7; Romans 12:1–2)
- Submission (1 Peter 2:13–18)
- Suffering (1 Peter 3:8–17; 4:12–19)
- Satisfaction (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

**Application:** Some of you say that you want to know God's will for your lives, but you aren't obeying God's moral will right now. Maybe your confusion isn't caused by uncertainty but by disobedience.

## GOD'S INDIVIDUAL WILL

This is what God wants you to do in an area of decision (e.g., whom should I marry? where should I go to school?). This is God's desired will that is not written in the Bible. For example, I can't find out if God wants me to move to Gospel Hill, Texas by reading Matthew 4:23. (More about this misuse of God's Word in a future lesson).

This is the area that we struggle with in our decisions. Actually, only Christians who are concerned about obeying God struggle with this area. The rest don't give a rip whether God is pleased with their decisions or not. We struggle because normally the choices are all good. That is, none of the choices would be sin for us.

For example, if you are considering which Bible college to go to, you may be looking at three good schools. You could attend any one of them and not be in sin. That's what makes the choice so difficult. If it is a question of choosing to sin or not to sin, that is covered by God's moral will. When all the choices are (seemingly) acceptable to God, you are dealing with a decision that involves God's individual will for you.

There is no question among Christians that God has a sovereign will and that He has a moral will. But does He have an individual will for each of us that concerns specific choices in our lives?

**Question:** How do we know that God has an individual (personal) will for us?

One indication is Psalm 37:23, "The steps of a good man are *ordered* by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way." The word, *ordered*, is a Hebrew word that means to be established, prepared. The same word shows up in two other references dealing with direction. (The italicized words are the same Hebrew word in Psalm 37:23).

- Psalm 40:2, "He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and *established* my goings."
- Proverbs 16:9 "A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD *directeth* his steps."

These verses indicate that God directs the steps of the righteous. He has a plan. The same word is used in Psalm 8:3, "When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast *ordained*." Even the planets fulfill God's overall plan for them.

Within the scope of God's will, God does seem to have a concern about our individual decisions. And, at the same time, He allows us the freedom to make them. We will never have the same certainty about God's individual will for us as we will about His moral will that is revealed in Scripture.

**Question:** Does God's individual will include every decision that you and I have to make? For example, does His plan include whether I should wear a red shirt or a white shirt today? Obviously not. Obviously I could wear either shirt and still be in God's will.

So could you go to any one of several Bible colleges and still be in God's will? Yes, it's possible. As long as you are fulfilling God's moral will, He gives you some freedom in His individual will. He wants you to make a wise choice. The wisest choice you can make is to attend the Bible College that is best for you.

**Handout:** (What you need: copies of "Interviewing Yourself" and pens or pencils) After the teens fill them out, have them volunteer their answers for selected questions. Point out that no one in the class answered those questions the same because no one is a carbon copy of somebody else. We are all individuals. Our all-knowing God wants the best (as He defines it) for each of us. That involves us being submitted to His moral will and making wise decisions for His individual will.

**Closing:** (What you need: paper and pens or pencils) Have them list one to three personal decisions which they are facing for which they hope to get some personal insight through this study. Ask them to turn them in to you and tell them that you will be praying for them.

You are facing many key decisions about God's will in the next few years. Isn't it good to know that God wants what is best for you?

Close by praying that they will make wise decisions about God's will.



# GOD'S WILL: SCRIPTURE MEMORY

## Psalm 37:23

The steps of a *good* man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.

## Jeremiah 17:9

The heart is deceitful above all *things*, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

## Matthew 6:33

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

## James 1:5-8

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

## Romans 12:1-2

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is your reasonable service*. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

# INTERVIEWING YOURSELF

Answer the following questions and be prepared to turn them in.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. If you could eat only one food for the next three months, what would it be?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What would most of the people in this group be surprised to know about you? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. If you could be any household appliance, what would you be and why?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. If you could be one age for the rest of your life, what age would it be? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What is one bad habit that you cannot stand? (Yours or someone else's)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## LESSON 2

# AVOIDING POPULAR PITFALLS, PART 1

When the preacher's car broke down on a country road, he walked to a nearby roadhouse to use the phone. After calling for a tow truck, he spotted his old friend, Frank, drunk and shabbily dressed at the bar. "What happened to you, Frank?" asked the good reverend. "You used to be rich."

Frank told a sad tale of bad investments that had led to his downfall. "Go home," the preacher said. "Open your Bible at random, stick your finger on the page and there will be God's answer." Some time later, the preacher bumped into Frank, who was wearing a Gucci suit, sporting a Rolex watch, and had just stepped out of a Mercedes. "Frank," said the preacher, "I am glad to see things really turned around for you." "Yes, preacher, and I owe it all to you," said Frank. "I opened my Bible, put my finger down on the page and there was the answer—Chapter 11."

Unfortunately this story illustrates how some teens try to determine God's will. There is a whole lot mystical and very little spiritual in their decisions. In order to understand how we can make decisions that honor God, we first need to eliminate poor methods for determining God's will. That's what we will look at in the next two lessons.

**Lesson Aim:** To expose the problems of some common methods for determining God's will.

**Objectives:** The teens will...

- Be challenged by the example of Job
- Experience the subjectivity of inner impressions/feelings
- Recognize the importance of interpreting God's Word accurately

**Texts:** Job 23:1–10; Jeremiah 17:9; Revelation 22:18–19

In Job we see an Old Testament saint that was questioning God's will. He didn't see how his present difficulties could be part of God's plan. While Job had no peace, we know that he was in God's will.

Jeremiah teaches us the truth that our hearts are deceitful—we cannot trust them. Using our hearts to make a decision leaves us open to the possibility that we are deceived.

Revelation teaches us that God's Word is not silly putty. We cannot make it mean whatever we want it to. It has inherent meaning that is the same for everyone.

**What You Need:** blindfolds for everybody, copies of "What's Your Opinion?," pens or pencils

# THE LESSON



**Warm Up: Option #1**—Share this story.

There were two sisters who lived with their family in Goodman, WI. They were simple folks who worked at the local sawmill. One day a family moved into town from Germany, and they had two sons about the same age as the girls. As fate would have it, the sons got jobs at the sawmill as well. Tragedy struck the German family one day when the husband died not long after he had moved to Goodman, but the mother and her boys managed to survive on their own. In time, the girls from Goodman married the boys from Germany. They lived happy lives together for about ten years, until tragedy struck again. Both of the German husbands died in an unfortunate accident. Now the two girls and their German-speaking mother-in-law were left to fend for themselves.

In a tearful moment the mother-in-law told the girls that she was going back to Germany. Obviously she expected her daughters-in-law to stay in Wisconsin with their family. One girl did decide to stay while the other one refused to leave the side of her mother-in-law. She knew that by traveling to Germany she would be a foreigner in a strange country with a different culture, language, and food. Initially, she would have no friends, family, or security. However, she went anyway.

Questions:

- Do you think she made the right decision? Why?
- What would you have done?
- How do you determine the will of God in decisions like this?

Read the story in Ruth 1 and find out what Ruth did.

**Option #2**—(What you need: copies of "What's Your Opinion?" and pens or pencils) Give this survey to your teens. Solicit their answers and have them defend them.



**Bridge:** We face decisions in life for which we *must* know God's will. Because of that urgency, and the accompanying uncertainty, some Christians have used speculative means to determine God's will.



**Content:**

When we try to find God's will for our personal decisions, we often use some false notions of how to do this.

**Question:** What are some ways that you've heard people can use to find God's will?

**Question:** Rob, an immature Christian, tells you that *God* has told him to buy a brand new Lexus. He knows it is God's will. However, he and his wife have some past due bills that they cannot pay, and his wife is about to give birth to a new baby. What do you say to him?

## THE MYSTICAL APPROACH

Some people try to find God's will by determining whether they have "peace" about a decision. Often they will say that the Holy Spirit has led them a certain direction or that they have an "inner impression." This is called the mystical approach because it is very subjective. There are a few problems with this approach.

### THE EXAMPLE OF JOB (JOB 23:1–10)

If we look at Job, we see a man who was in God's will yet he had no peace. Job wanted to find God, but he couldn't. He didn't have peace or an inner impression that told him his suffering was God's will. In fact, he kept wondering why this was happening. We can read the Book of Job and know immediately that Job was in the center of God's will. Job didn't know that; he just had the confidence that God would only do him good (23:10).

### THE CONDITION OF THE HEART (JEREMIAH 17:9)

When we depend on a feeling of peace in our hearts or an inner impression, we are depending upon something that cannot be trusted. If we can't know our heart, it's hard to take what we feel as proof of God's will. It's possible that we could be deceived.

What makes this even more difficult is the fact that sometimes our heart or conscience condemns or convicts us wrongly (1 John 3:19–20). It is at this point that Someone greater than our heart can set us straight.

If our heart is deceitful, how do we know that what we think is peace or an inner impression from the Holy Spirit isn't just good feelings? It appears that the mystical approach bases decisions on feelings and not the Bible. It is extremely subjective—how can you argue with someone who says that an inner impression from the Holy Spirit convinced them of God's will? You can't.

**Activity:** (What you need: Blindfolds for everybody) Divide your class into two groups. Have them put on their blindfolds and hold hands. Say, "Let's use our inner impressions to form a square. Have your group form a square while still holding hands. Stop when you feel you've got a square." Chances are it won't look like much of a square when they are done. To make it harder, you can blindfold them first and then divide them into groups. That way they're not sure how many people should be on each side of the square. You could also ask them to form a triangle or a parallelogram. (If you can remember what a parallelogram is. I couldn't. I had to look it up.)

(After they take their blindfolds off and see their "square," have them stay there as you talk.) Clearly you felt that you had made a square. You may have had good feelings about your square; you may even have had an inner impression about your square. But, because you couldn't see, you didn't make a good square.

(Have them sit down.) It's the same way with the mystical approach. You may be convinced something is God's will because the "Holy Spirit told you" in spite of evidence to the contrary.

Look at our illustration of Rob who was convinced the Holy Spirit had told him to buy a Lexus. It didn't matter that by not paying his bills, he was stealing money (Exodus 20:15). It didn't matter that he didn't have enough to take care of a new baby (1

Timothy 5:8). The Holy Spirit “told him to buy the Lexus.” He determined God’s will by an inner impression, and he was wrong.

If this is the primary means that you use for determining God’s will, it is weak. You may have a good feeling about God’s will. You may even believe the Holy Spirit has led you in your decision, and He may have. However, God’s will needs to be confirmed by other means.

## THE DIVINATION APPROACH (REVELATION 22:18–19)

This approach looks at the Bible as a magical book. A Christian will read a passage and find a meaning for that verse that is specific to them. For example, a missionary might explain why he knows he should go to an island nation based on Isaiah 42:12, “Let them give glory unto the LORD, and declare his praise in the *islands*.”

Christians who use this approach may find a special verse that confirms a decision for them even though the verse probably couldn’t mean that to anyone else.

For example, a Christian teenager in a rock band may read Psalm 2:3 (KJV) and think that God is telling him to break up his band. There are good reasons for a Christian to get out of a rock band, but Psalm 2:3 is not one of them.

**Illustration:** The other day I was praying and asking God to reveal His will for who will win the Super Bowl this year. He showed me in Psalm 37:35. (Have your teens turn there in the KJV and read the passage. Ask them to guess who will win the Super Bowl.)

Kind of silly, isn’t it? Obviously this passage wasn’t written 3,000 years ago so that I would know whom this year’s Super Bowl winner is going to be. But that’s exactly how some teens and adults look at God’s Word.

**Question:** Didn’t God give us His Word to help us make decisions? Then why can’t we use it this way?

God told Israel to be very careful in what they did to God’s Word (Read Deuteronomy 4:2). They were not to add to or subtract from what His Word said. This reminder was given to all Christians in Revelation 22:18–19. (Read it.) God is concerned that His Word be interpreted correctly.

God’s Word has intrinsic or fundamental meaning separate from you or me. In other words, when we try to make a passage mean something to us that it couldn’t mean to anyone else, we are saying that we determine what God’s Word means. In that way we are adding to God’s Word. That makes us the authority over God’s Word instead of the other way around.

When we interpret the Bible, we seek to find what it meant to the original audience. When we have that meaning, we determine how it applies to us today. Because the application is based on it, the original meaning is very important. It can’t mean today what it never meant. The application may be different today than it was in Bible times; however, it is not absolutely flexible—it is not silly putty. The application has to come from the meaning.

**Question:** Determining the original meaning can be difficult because our situation is so different from those to whom the passage was originally written. What are some differences between a 21st century Christian (you) and an Old Testament Saint?

- We have different customs.
- We live in different place.
- We don't write like they did.
- We speak a different language.
- We live in a different century.
- God doesn't inspire us to write Scripture.

Too many Christians go to Scripture looking for the blessing of the day. They bypass the original meaning in their search for something that applies to them. When we give a personal meaning to a verse that no one else could get out of that verse, we essentially twist Scripture.

**Closing:** If we are going to find God's will and make decisions pleasing to Him, we cannot use the mystical approach of trusting our feelings or the divination approach of twisting Scripture. Let's pray that God would show us through these lessons how we can make good life decisions.



# WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?

Take this survey about principles for making decisions. Indicate whether you agree or disagree with each statement.

1. Getting counsel from others is a good way to make a decision.  
 Yes  No
2. Using a "fleece" (as Gideon did) is helpful.  
 Yes  No
3. Determining whether the circumstances are favorable is necessary.  
 Yes  No
4. Sometimes God confirms His will through a specific verse He gives me.  
 Yes  No
5. God expects me to use principles from His Word to make wise decisions.  
 Yes  No
6. Whether I have the peace of God about the decision is important.  
 Yes  No
7. Whether this violates biblical principles is important to find out.  
 Yes  No
8. The inner leading of the Holy Spirit is helpful in making decisions.  
 Yes  No
9. Determining whether this helps me carry out my responsibilities at home and church is important.  
 Yes  No
10. Asking God to provide specific circumstances gives me an answer.  
 Yes  No

# WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?

Take this survey about principles for making decisions. Indicate whether you agree or disagree with each statement.

1. Getting counsel from others is a good way to make a decision.  
 Yes  No
2. Using a "fleece" (as Gideon did) is helpful.  
 Yes  No
3. Determining whether the circumstances are favorable is necessary.  
 Yes  No
4. Sometimes God confirms His will through a specific verse He gives me.  
 Yes  No
5. God expects me to use principles from His Word to make wise decisions.  
 Yes  No
6. Whether I have the peace of God about the decision is important.  
 Yes  No
7. Whether this violates biblical principles is important to find out.  
 Yes  No
8. The inner leading of the Holy Spirit is helpful in making decisions.  
 Yes  No
9. Determining whether this helps me carry out my responsibilities at home and church is important.  
 Yes  No
10. Asking God to provide specific circumstances gives me an answer.  
 Yes  No