

New Year, ~~New~~ True Resolution
Pastor Daniel

- **Ephesians 5:17** (NIV) *“Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil (**poneros: morally evil and bad**). Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.”*

First Aspect of God's Will

- Perfect Will of God
 - I. **Isaiah 46:9-10** (NCV) *“Remember that I am God, and there is no other God. I am God, and there is no one like me. 10 From the beginning I told you what would happen in the end. A long time ago, I told you things that have not yet happened. When I plan something, it happens. What I want to do, I will do.”*
 - II. **Ephesians 1:11** (NCV) *“In Christ, we were chosen to be God's people, because from the very beginning, God had decided this in keeping with his plan (or will). And he is the One who makes everything agree with what he decides and wants.”*

Second Aspect of God's Will

- Preferential Will of God
 - I. **1 Timothy 2:3-4** *“This is good, and it pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to know the truth.”*

Other verses:

- a. **Ezekiel 18:24, 32**
- b. **2 Peter 3:9**

Third Aspect of God's Will

➤ Permissive Will of God

- I. **Matthew 19:4-8**
- II. **1 Samuel 8:1-6**

Fourth Aspect of God's Will

➤ Preceptive Will of God

- I. **Joshua 1:8** (NLT) *"Study this Book of Instruction (the Word of God) continually. Meditate on it day and night, so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do."*
- II. **Psalms 119:104-105** (NIV) *"I gain understanding from your precepts; therefore I hate every wrong path. Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path."*
- III. **2 Timothy 3:16-17** (NCV) *"All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for showing people what is wrong in their lives, for correcting faults, and for teaching how to live right. Using the Scriptures, the person who serves God will be capable, having all that is needed to do every good work."*

- **Ephesians 1:11b** (NCV) “... And he [God] is the One who makes everything agree with what he decides and wants (His Will).”

The Will of God for you is...

- I. Salvation — God's will is that you will be Saved.
 - II. Sanctification — God's will is that you would be Sanctified.
 - III. Service — God's will is that you would be Serving.
- We see this in **1 Timothy 2:3-4** (NCV) “*This is good, and it pleases God our Savior, who wants (wills) all people to be saved and to know the truth.*”
- God, through Christ, saves us (delivers us) from...
 - I. the Penalty of sin
 - II. the Power of sin
 - III. the Person of sin
- What is Sin?
 - I. Sin is the failure to meet God's perfect standard.
- **Romans 3:10-12,18,23-24** “*There is no one who always does what is right, not even one. There is no one who understands [God's way]. There is no one who seeks God. All have turned away. Together, everyone has become corrupted. There is no one who does anything good; there is not even one. ‘They have no fear of God.’... ‘Everyone has sinned and fallen short of God's glorious standard, and all need to be made right with God by his grace, which is a free gift. They need to be made free from sin through Jesus Christ.’*”

- Christ came to give us a new nature with a new heart— one that now desires to do God’s will.
 - I. **Ezekiel 36:26-27** (MSG) *"I'll give you a new heart, put a new spirit in you. I'll remove the stone heart from your body and replace it with a heart that's God-willed, not self-willed. I'll put my Spirit in you and make it possible for you to do what I tell you and live by my commands."*

- God's will for us to be Sanctified.
 - I. **1 Thessalonians 4:3** (NIV/NET) *"It is God's will that you should be sanctified..."*

- So, What does it mean to be SANCTIFIED?
 - I. Biblically, to be holy or sanctified means to be Distinct and Separate— to set apart for the Presence and Purpose of God.

- **Romans 12:2** (NCV) *"Don't copy the behavior and customs [or lifestyle] of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect."*

- **1 Peter 1:14-16** (NCV) *"Now that you are obedient children of God do not live as you did in the past. You did not understand, so you did the evil things you wanted. But be holy [Sanctified] in all you do, just as God, the One who called you, is holy [Sanctified]. It is written in the Scriptures: 'You must be holy [Sanctified] because I am holy [Sanctified].'"*

- **1 John 2:15-17** (NCV/NIV) *"Do not love the world or the things in the world. If you love the world, the love of the Father is not in you. These are the ways of the world: wanting to please our sinful selves, wanting the sinful things*

we see, and being too proud of what we have. None of these come from the Father, but all of them come from the world. The world and everything that people want in it are passing away, but the person who does [the will of God] lives forever.”

➤ God's purpose and will for us is that we would be serving...

- I. **Romans 12:4-8** (NCV) *“Each one of us has a body with many parts, and these parts all have different uses. In the same way, we are many, but in Christ, we are all one body. Each one is a part of that body, and each part belongs to all the other parts. We all have different gifts, each of which came because of the grace God gave us. The person who has the gift of prophecy should use that gift in agreement with the faith. Anyone who has the gift of serving [and hospitality] should serve. Anyone who has the gift of teaching should teach. Whoever has the gift of encouraging others should encourage. Whoever has the gift of giving to others should give freely. Anyone who has the gift of being a leader should try hard when he leads. Whoever has the gift of showing mercy to others should do so with joy.”*
- II. **1 Peter 4:10** (NCV) *“Each of you has received gifts to use to serve others. Be good servants of God's various gifts of grace...”*
- III. **Ephesians 4:16** (NCV) *“The whole body depends on Christ, and all the parts of the body are joined and held together. Each part does its own work to make the whole body grow and be strong with love.”*

➤ We are called to live out and share our hope in Christ.

- I. **1 Peter 3:15-16** (NCV) *“Always be ready to answer everyone who asks you to explain about the hope you have, but answer in a gentle way and with respect.”*
- II. **Matthew 28:19-20** (NCV) *“Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All power in heaven and on earth is given to me. So go and make followers of all people in the world. Baptize them in the name of the Father*

and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach them to obey everything that I have taught you, and I will be with you always, even until the end of this age.”

- My Encouragement: Let God’s will be your True Resolution for life.
 - I. God's will is for us to be Saved, Sanctified, and Serving others so they can be Saved, Sanctified, and Serving others.

Prioritize the will of God.

- **Matthew 6:33** (NCV) “*Seek first God’s kingdom and what God wants. Then all your other needs will be met as well.*”

The Big Idea

- God's will is for us to be **Saved**, **Sanctified**, and **Serving** others so they can be Saved, Sanctified, and Serving others.

Small Group Questions

- I. **What did the Pastor say is one of the most asked questions?**
 - _____
- II. **Have you ever asked the above question to yourself or another person?**
- III. **What does it mean to seek the will of God?**
- IV. **Do you regularly seek God's will (as revealed in His word) before making decisions?**
 - If not, why not?
 - If so, how do you go about it?
- V. **Why is it important to seek the Will of God?**
- VI. **What are the three (main) expressions of God's will that the Pastor unpacked?**
 - _____
 - Hint: 1 Timothy 2:3-5; Titus 2:11
 - _____
 - Hint: 1 Thessalonians 4:3
 - _____
 - Hint: 1 Peter 4:10; Romans 12:3-8
 - Ephesians 2:10; Ephesians 4:12-14
- VII. **How are you living out the truth of the above (3) expressions of God's will in your life?**