

## Thy Will 2018-07-08

### Matthew 6:9-10

*Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."*

God's will is ultimate reason for everything that happens, so answers to prayer depend on asking in accordance with God's will. Ephesians 1:11, 1 John 5:14-15

- Find God's moral or "revealed" will in the Word....commands or "precepts" for our moral conduct. John 15:7, Psalm 119:105, James 1:5, 1 Thessalonians 5:14-21
  - Knowing the Word increases faith, wisdom and confidence when we pray.
    - Be careful not to presume where there is no promise in Word.
      - God has not promised a specific job but to supply our needs. Philippians 4:19
  - Saturate prayer with scripture and Biblical 'big picture' requests.
    - Alternative of "all or nothing" prayer is "do something."
      - Many times God works in increments. Mark 8:23-25

How do we pray when we do not know what God's specific will is? Ephesians 1:11,

- Lord not always keep secret His providential will. Ask Holy Spirit to reveal it.
  - Must seek to discern between our own thoughts, Satan, Lord's will.
    - You do not have to be special/clever, but willing to patiently listen to Holy Spirit.

Use Word as objective filter to discern all subjective leadings/promptings.

- Apply general Biblical principles to help determine what to pray.
  - God's primary will for your life is you conformed to image of Jesus Christ.
  - Screen both request and intended results (fruit) through same criteria!

Set God's will before your own. James 4:2-3, Luke 22:42,

*"Seek to have no will of your own so that you can honestly say, you are willing to do the will of God."* George Muller

- Prayer may seem pure but can be quite selfish.
  - Focused more on comfort/security rather than God's purposes.
    - Running away from something rather than to something.
      - God's will is usually path of greater sacrifice/commitment.
- Own will sinfully stands in way of praying for God's will and that's why prayer is part of Lord's sanctification process, it changes us not God. Romans 12:2
  - Prayer is part of God's way of bringing our priorities in line with His. Next
    - Must be transformed by renewing of mind to know perfect will of God and selflessly surrender own preference to Lord's wisdom.

After getting sense through Word, counsel, inner peace/perception then pray with faith for what seems like God's will. Romans 12:2, Acts 15:28, Philippians 4:6-7, Hebrews 11:1, James 4:15

- OK to pray "If your will" but not OK if you know something is God's will...wisdom
  - If not Your will, silence & confuse these thoughts.

- God may respond by giving sense of assurance that it's His will, change your desires, give additional insight/direction from Word or about situation.

God's ultimate will is to bring glory to Himself and His primary will for your life is to conform you to image of Jesus....prayer part of that process.

- "Your will be done" appeal for God's revealed/moral will to be followed in world, your life, others (lost/Christians) and church, as is in heaven. Deuteronomy 29:29, Proverbs 3:5-6
- Also appeal for God's providential will to be fulfilled....as revealed by Holy Spirit.
  - "Thy will"....Enable me to be obedient and do ALL Your will and to do it in same fervent, joyful, selfless way angels obey it in heaven.