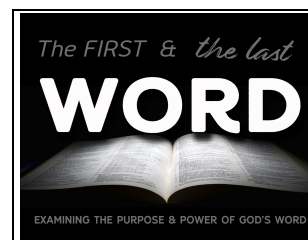


So we have not stopped praying for you since we first heard about you. We ask God to give you complete knowledge of his will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding.¹⁰ Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better.

Colossians 1:9,10

Notes:



Discovering God's Will For My Life

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. ² Don't copy the behavior and customs 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.

Romans 12:1,2

1. **Commit everything to Christ.** *"And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God..."*

Your transformation as a follower of Christ rests solely on you getting a hold of your body and offering it to God.

What's the reason for making this commitment?

"...because of all he has done for you."

Community Group Questions:

1. How can you give your body to God?
2. How can you improve upon being in the world but not of it?
3. Share how God's Word has changed your thinking about something.

Rick Warren- *The secret to knowing God's will is to be willing in advance to do whatever it is. God doesn't play games. If you want to know God's will you decide you're going to do His will whatever it is.*

There are three characteristics of committing all to Jesus.

- **It's voluntary.** *"give your bodies"*
- **It's practical.** *"give your bodies"*

Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, ²⁰for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body. 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20

- **It's complete.** *"Let them be a living and holy sacrifice."*

2. Don't conform to the world's values.

"Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world,"

We know that we are children of God and that the world around us is under the control of the evil one. 1 John 5:19

For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. 1 John 2:16

For this world in its present form is passing away. 1 Corinthians 7:31

What does being in the world but not of it look like?

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. ²Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Ephesians 4:2

3. Let God change how you think. *"...but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think." vs. 2*

"As a man thinks in his heart, so is he."

Proverbs 23:7

...no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. Ephesians 4:17

...be made new in the attitude of your minds. Ephesians 4:23

"How do I renew my mind?" The more you fill your mind, with God's word the more it transforms your life. As God's word takes hold of your mind

vs. 2 Then you will learn to know God's will for you.

1. God's will is always found in God's word. Most of God's will has already been revealed. As we read His word, He speaks to us.

2. God's will never contradicts God's word.

Paul says God's will is three things;
vs. 2 which is good and pleasing and perfect.

1. It's good. In Greek, the word here means "high quality". God's plan is the good life.

2. It's pleasing or acceptable. God isn't a scrooge who sees you're having a good time and stops you. His will is pleasing, enjoyable.

3. It's perfect. Literally what this means is that God's plan for your life is tailor-made. It's uniquely designed for you. It fits.