

WHAT IS GOD'S WILL FOR MY LIFE?

By: Fountain Hendricks

(Jeremiah 29:11)

God's will for your life is His scheduled plan. God has already **PLANNED** to bless you. He has **PLANNED** to exalt you. He has **PLANNED** your life. Unfortunately, many people do not experience His plan for their life because they **CHOOSE** to follow their own plans. People who are wise follow the Lord's plans. People who are foolish follow their own ideas.

Jeremiah 29:11 says, *"I say this because I know what I am **PLANNING** for you," says the Lord. "I have **GOOD PLANS** for you, not plans to hurt you. I will give you hope and a good future."* God made a **PROMISE** to us. He said His plans will give us a good future. The only way to maximize your potential, magnify your talents and become a person of righteous character is to **SUBMIT** to the Lord's plan.

Many people pray for God's will to be done.

Unfortunately, these same people remove themselves from God's will because they cannot recognize it. When people cannot recognize the will of God they will pursue their own agenda. Here are five ways to recognize when you are in the **CENTER** of God's will.

- 1) When you are in the place of **ACCEPTANCE** you are in the center of God's will.
- 2) When you are in the position of **INFLUENCE** you are in the center of God's will.
- 3) When you are in the place of **HONOR** you are in the center of God's will.
- 4) When you are in the place of **FAVOR** you are in the center of God's will.

5) When you are in the place of **TESTING** you are in the center of God's will.

THE PLACE OF ACCEPTANCE: You do not belong everywhere. You belong somewhere. *Rejection is the proof that something does not belong!* *Acceptance is the proof that something does belong.* In Genesis 37:4 Joseph was rejected by his brothers. God allowed Joseph's brothers to reject him because their acceptance of him was **NOT** part of His plan. God will never allow someone to accept you if it was **NOT** part of His scheduled plan for you.

When Joseph was rejected by his family, he was **ACCEPTED** by his slave master, Potiphar. When Joseph went to his place of acceptance, he prospered. When you pray for God's will to be done He will **LEAD** you to the place of **ACCEPTANCE. YOU CAN ONLY PROSPER IN YOUR PLACE OF ACCEPTANCE!**

THE PLACE OF INFLUENCE: When you are in the place of influence. People will **HONOR** your voice. God wants His children to be influential. Remember, we are the head and not the tail, above and not beneath.

In Genesis 41:40 Pharaoh promoted Joseph to be second in command over Egypt. God exalted Joseph to the place of influence. Genesis 41:40 says, *"I will put you in charge of my palace. All the people will OBEY your orders and only I will be greater than you."* The king told Joseph something very powerful in Genesis 41:44. He said, *"I am the King, and I say that no one in all the land of Egypt may lift a hand or a foot without your permission."*

The place of influence is the center of God's will. God gives you influence so you can proclaim His **RIGHTEOUSNESS**. The Kingdom of God is exalted when His children are in places of influence.

THE PLACE OF HONOR: Residing in the place of honor will cause you to be **CELEBRATED**. God does not

put you in the place of honor to massage your ego. He puts you in the place of honor to build your confidence. You cannot live like a king thinking like a peasant. You cannot lead a movement acting like a follower.

In order to complete your purpose you must walk in **CONFIDENCE**. People who walk with confidence lives with courage. 1st Samuel 16:8-23 talks about David. He was a Shepard boy serving under king Saul.

King Saul appointed David to fight in different battles. David was victorious in every battle he fought. When David returned home after killing the Philistine giant the women from all of the towns of Israel sang songs of joy.

As they celebrated, they sang this song, "*Saul has killed thousands of his enemies but David has killed tens of thousands.*" God placed David in the **CENTER** of His will by allowing him to be celebrated by a multitude of people. When the people honored David his confidence **INCREASED**.

David came from a family who overlooked, neglected and mistreated him. Before the Lord could make him the king of Israel He had to **CHANGE THE WAY DAVID THOUGHT ABOUT HIMSELF**. When you are being celebrated in the place of honor God is **PREPARING** you for the place of influence.

THE PLACE OF FAVOR: Residing in the place of favor allows you to grow, develop and mature into the person you were created to be. In the place of favor you will have the opportunity to make mistakes without being penalized. In the place of favor you will receive protection and supernatural provision. When God puts you in the place of favor He has given you the opportunity to learn while making mistakes **WITHOUT** enduring consequences.

1st Samuel 16:21 says, "*When David came to Saul, he began to serve him. Saul LIKED David and made him the officer who carried his armor.*" favor is defined as **SOMEONE LIKING YOU**. David did not come from a

privilege background. David came from poverty. This young man entered a royal environment with a peasant mentality. Can you imagine how many mistakes he made while serving king Saul?

He probably did not know what silverware to use. He probably did not know how to communicate effectively. David was in the center of God's will. While he was in the place of favor he was able to learn how to act like a king **WITHOUT** being penalized for his mistakes. **WHEN YOU ARE IN THE PLACE OF FAVOR GOD IS TEACHING YOU WHAT YOU DO NOT KNOW.**

THE PLACE OF TESTING: This is a difficult place.

The place of testing is uncomfortable. However, it builds your character. The place of testing will build your faith, increase your patience and strengthen your character.

Standing in the center of God's will can be very hard.

Jesus experienced a similar hardship. Matthew 4:1 says,

"Then the Spirit led Jesus into the desert to be tempted by the devil."

The desert was a place of despair and hopelessness. In spite of the conditions Jesus was still in the **CENTER** of God's will. The wilderness was not meant to comfort Jesus. It was meant to build His character. When you are being tested everything **AROUND YOU** will bother you. However, the peace of God will keep you.

The place of testing will come with **OPPOSITION**. Your character will not develop in the midst of agreement. It will blossom in the midst of conflict. In Matthew chapter 4 the devil **CHALLENGED** Jesus authority by **TEMPTING** Him to fulfill the scriptures **UNJUSTLY**.

Matthew 4:6 says, *"The devil said, "If you are the Son of God, jump down, because it is written in the scriptures: "He has put his angels in charge of you. They will catch you in their hands so that you will not hit your foot on a rock."*

WHEN YOU ARE IN THE PLACE OF TESTING GOD IS BUILDING YOUR CHARACTER. When you pray for

God's will to be done He will place you within these five sectors. If one of these five sectors are applicable to your situation you are standing in the **CENTER** of God's will! Never forget these five places. They define the will of God.

- The place of **ACCEPTANCE**.
- The place of **INFLUENCE**.
- The place of **HONOR**.
- The place of **FAVOR**.
- The place of **TESTING**.

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