

When OPPORTUNITY Knocks

How to know God's will for your life



UNDERSTANDING HOW GOD WORKS

Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

- Ephesians 5:15-17 (NIV)

WHAT IS GOD'S WILL?

1. God's will is not a FEELING

The **problem** with this approach is that

FEELINGS are UNRELIABLE

Who can understand the human heart? There is nothing else so deceitful; it is too sick to be healed. - Jeremiah 17:9 (TEV)

2. God's will is not a FORMULA

The **problems** with this approach:

- It is often CONTRADICTIONARY
- You have to FOLLOW it PERFECTLY

3. God's will is a FELLOWSHIP

- God's will is not rules, it's a RELATIONSHIP
- God's will is not a life map, it's a LIFESTYLE

God is to be trusted, the God who called you to have fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. - 1 Corinthians 1:9 (TEV)

3 ATTITUDES THAT BLOCK GOD'S WILL IN YOUR LIFE

1. Being FATALISTIC about God's will

The **problems** with this approach:

- It's UNFAIR to God, and UNHEALTHY for you.

If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own.

- John 7:17 (NIV)

- God's will involves my CHOICE

2. Being FEARFUL about God's will

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. - Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

- God's will is an EXPRESSION of His LOVE

3. Being FRUSTRATED about God's will

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

- Romans 8:28 (NIV)

- God's will is a long-term process that includes both PROBLEMS and PLEASURES

THE RIGHT ATTITUDE IS ONE OF FAITH

Hebrews 11:6
1 Timothy 2:3
Psalms 119:105

My Next Step Today Is To:

- Put my faith in Jesus Christ for the first time today.
- Change my attitudes and methods for seeking God's will for my life.
- Memorize **Ephesians 5:15-17**