

Whoever finds his life will
lose it, and whoever loses
his life for my sake will
find it.
Mt 10:39

Share the teaching
Guard the sharing

Male Call

February 2, 2007

God's Will—Acting in the Chaos, Part II

5:55 – 1) Coffee & Donuts
6:05

2) Opening Prayer

6:05 – **Acting in a world of chaos**
6:25

1) Adam was silent and passive.

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

Gen 3:6

Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.

1Tim 2:14

2) God has promised us guidance.

You said to me, "I will point out the road that you should follow. I will be your teacher and watch over you. Don't be stupid like horses and mules that must be led with ropes to make them obey." Ps 32:8-9

3) Jesus has given us authority to act.

I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Mt 16:19 (Jesus to disciples)

Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. Mt 18:18-19 (Jesus to disciples)

For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements: that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality.
Acts 15:28-29a (early church council)

4) We are to act in accordance with His will.

And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him. 1Jn 15:14-15

5) Finding God's will (the order is important!).

- a) Read your Bible (*knowledge*)
 - i) 2Tim 3:14-17
- b) Develop a heart for God (*relationship*)
 - i) Ps 37:4
- c) Seek wise counsel (*confirmation*)
 - i) Prov 12:15
 - ii) Expert—Follower model *or* Elder—Disciple model
- d) Look for God's providence (*circumstances*)
 - i) Ruth 2:3 (cf Mt 1:5), James 4:13-17
- e) Does this make sense? (*sound judgment*)
 - i) Acts 15:22
- f) Accept Divine intervention (*revelation, re-direction, and rescue*)
 - i) Acts 9:1ff; Acts 10ff, Acts 12ff

Interaction and Prayer:

- 1) Do the six steps for finding God's will make sense to you?

- 2) Discuss times in your life when you sought God's will.

- 3) How would these six steps have helped you? Or how did steps similar to these help you?

6:55 – Closing Prayer
7:00

Further reading:

The Silence of Adam, Larry Crabb

Finding the Will of God, a pagan notion?, Bruce Waltke

Then Secret of Guidance, F.B. Meyer

Hearing God, Dallas Willard