



Maranatha Baptist Church
Equip University
Christian Living Track
Fearing and Following God

Class 9 – Understanding God’s Will

Introduction

What Is the Will of God?

1. God’s will of decree (Deuteronomy 29:29)

2. God’s will of command (1 Thessalonians 4:3)

What God’s Will is Not

In short, the will of God is not:

- A choose-your-own adventure book.

- A fairytale of comfort and happiness.

- A target you can somehow miss.

God's Will for His People

1. His Will is That We Obey (John 14:21).

Now, what implications does that have for our decisions? Two things:

- God will never lead you to contradict His Word.
- Obedience is the path to wisdom (Romans 12:2).

2. His Will is That We Be Holy (1 Thessalonians 4:3).

3. His Will is That Christ be Exalted (Ephesians 1:5-10).

Additional Resources:

- Ed Welch, *When People Are Big and God Is Small*
- Lou Priolo, *Pleasing People: How not to be an Approval Junkie*
- Ed Welch, *Running Scared: Fear, Worry and the God of Rest*
- John Murray, *The Fear of God: The Soul of Godliness*
- Kevin DeYoung, *Just Do Something*
- Tony Payne & Philip Jensen, *Guidance and the Voice of God*
- James Petty, *Step By Step*

Class Outline:

1. What is the fear of man?
2. What is the fear of God?
3. How do we fear man? We fear that people will expose us.
4. How do we fear man? We fear that people will reject us.
5. How do we fear man? We fear that people will harm us.
6. A new vision for life: loving God and loving neighbor
7. Anxious or Restful?
8. God's Providence
9. God's Will
10. Faithfulness
11. Tools of the Trade Part 1: God's Word, Prayer, Counsel
12. Tools of the Trade Part 2: Circumstances and Feelings
13. Panel Discussion—Fearing and Following the Lord