

**When God's Will Isn't Clear
God, Just Tell Me – Part 3
October 19, 2025**

**Four Aspects of God's Will
God's Sovereign Will
God's Moral Will
God's Permissive Will
God's Personal Will**

**What is God's will?
God's will is more about a WHO than a DO.**

Four Ordinary Ways God Directs Us

1. Open Doors

1 Corinthians 16:8-9 (NIV) *"But I will stay on at Ephesus until Pentecost, ⁹ because a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me."*

An open door doesn't guarantee a smooth path.

2. Closed Doors

Acts 16:6 (NIV) *"Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the Word in the province of Asia."*

Acts 16:7 (NIV) *"When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to."*

God's "NO" is still direction.

God can close the wrong doors to get you to the right place.

Acts 16:8-10 (NIV) *"So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas. ⁹ During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' ¹⁰ After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them."*

3. Frustrated Plans

**Two Common Traits as Paul Seeks God's Will
Paul is not certain. Paul is not nervous.**

1 Corinthians 16:5-7 (NIV) *"After I go through Macedonia, I will come to you—for I will be going through Macedonia. ⁶ Perhaps I will stay with you for a while, or even spend the winter, so that you can help me on my journey, wherever I go. ⁷ For I do not want to see you now and make only a passing visit; I hope to spend some time with you, if the Lord permits."*

2 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV) *"For we walk by faith, not by sight."*

Paul didn't need absolute certainty to live with absolute trust.

What does God do?

He gives you what you need to take the next step.

Psalms 119:105 (NIV) *"Your Word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path."*

4. Everyday Choices

**God doesn't always give you a sign.
Sometimes He just gives you a choice.**

Titus 3:12 (NLT) *"I am planning to send either Artemas or Tychicus to you. As soon as one of them arrives, do your best to meet me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to stay there for the winter."*

1 Thessalonians 3:1 (NLT) *"Finally, when we could stand it no longer, we decided to stay alone in Athens."*

Acts 15:36 (NIV) *"Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, 'Let us go back and visit the believers in all the towns where we preached the Word of the Lord and see how they are doing.'"*

Ephesians 1:11 (NIV) *"In Him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of Him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of His will."*

Romans 8:28 (NIV) *"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."*

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV) *"And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him."*

Psalms 23:1-6 (NIV) *"The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. ² He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, ³ He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for His name's sake. ⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. ⁶ Surely Your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."*

Psalms 32:8 (NIV) *"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with My loving eye on you."*

**You don't have to be certain to be faithful.
You just have to take the next step.**

When God's will is not clear, we can still trust in His plan.