

The Search for God's Will

Esther 4-7

Making decisions in the will of God often involve consecration, courage without clarity, a collision of considerations, and a confidence in our calling.

1. What Decision Did Esther Face?

- Jewish Mourning (3-4)
- Haman Plotting to Exterminate Jews (7)
- Mordecai Pleading (8b)
- Esther Fearing (11-14)

Control and Certainty are absolutely elusive to us!!

2. What Do We See in Esther's Decision?

- Consecration (4:16)
- Courage without Clarity (5:1)
- Collision of Considerations
 1. Gifting & Background
 2. Passion & Burden
 3. Opportunity
 4. Counsel from Others
- Confidence in Calling

3. How Do We Make Decisions in God's Will?

- Consecrate Yourself

“Do not be worried about your life ... But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.” - Matthew 6:25-34

“Present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice ... do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you will may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.” - Romans 12:1-2

- Stop Waiting! *Stop Praying?* Start Trusting God!

“Come now, you who say, ‘Today we will go to such and such a city’ ... Yet, you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow ... You ought to say, ‘If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that.’”

- James 4:3-15

- Explore Your Own Collision of Considerations
- Major on His Revealed Will

“Whether then you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.” - 1 Corinthians 10:31

- Know God and Bear Fruit (Colossians 1:9-12)
- Be Filled by His Spirit (Ephesians 5:17)
- Make Disciples (Matthew 28:18-20)

- Personal Holiness (1 Thessalonians 4:3-5)
- Prayer of Thanksgiving (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

"Expecting God to reveal some hidden will of direction is an invitation to disappointment and indecision. Trusting in God's will of decree is good. Following His will of desire is obedient. Waiting for God's will of direction is a mess... The better way is the biblical way: Seek first the kingdom of God, and then trust that He will take care of our needs even before we know what they are and where we're going."

- Kevin DeYoung in *Just Do Something*