

**GOD'S WILL IN AN UNWILLING WORLD  
SESSION ONE: WHAT IS GOD'S WILL**

**Tough Questions/Incomplete Answers...Mike stated that knowing God's will often comes down to asking tough questions and living with incomplete answers. He posed several questions but what questions would you ask God if you had the chance?**

**We Can Know Enough...Mike declared that though we can never know GOD'S MIND FULLY, we can know ENOUGH. We can know enough not to confuse God with life. His will is a PARTIALLY-REVEALED MYSTERY, as clearly disclosed as it can be IN JESUS. His will has more to do with what WE ALREADY KNOW than what WE MUST FIGURE OUT. God had given us the bible and the lives of the faithful as SIGNS of what HIS WILL LOOKS LIKE.**

**"God wills" is an over-used/misused phrase. His "knowing about something" isn't the same thing as "his willing it". Saying "God willed it" makes God responsible for things which might make him sick.**

**Our Image of God...before discussing his will, we first must ask, "Who is God? What is he like? God is impossible to pin down. He won't stay put our "tiny box of ideas" about him. God's main goal with us isn't to attend to our needs, or to answer our prayer but to make us HOLY**

**God's Big Choice...to know his will, we must know his heart. At creation God faced the ultimate choice: what kind of God will I be? Aloof and immovable? No! God wanted a relationship with a creature close to his heart. He could have forced our love but he wanted PERSONS TO LOVE, not PUPPETS TO MANEUVER.**

**A CANVASS AND PAINTS...what if God is as surprised as we are by how life unfolds? He didn't use a cookie cutter at creation When God made you, he threw away the mold. What if his will is less like a SCRIPT and more like a canvas and a set of paints**