

**WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO DO
WEEK SEVEN OUTLINE**

Statement...today our study of God's will gets personal: What does God want me to do? What is his plan for my life? Does God intimately care about the issues of my life? Or, is it arrogant for us to think that God has time for such details?

THE HUNCH METHOD...many people resort to what I call "Hunch Method": they get a hunch or a feeling, and then look for signs that work for their benefit. At times, God's will may feel like a moving target. That is not because of any uncertainty in God but because of our actions. God can adjust to our moving; God moves faster than we do.

WHAT GOD HAS ALREADY REVEALED...the bible doesn't address every issue, but God is clear when he needs to be. God is better at giving us clues than we are in taking direction. Don't ask God to reveal what He has already revealed. His big purpose is revealed in scripture. His bottom line is clear: to love him first and to love our neighbors. If we kept busy doing what he expects, we wouldn't fret over his will.

WRITING OUR PLANS IN PENCIL...our plans are as subject to change as we are. We hate change. What if God's will is buried in the changes that we would avoid? When we belong to Jesus, all BETS ARE OFF. God didn't create us NOT TO DO SOMETHING. When life doesn't go as planned, don't blame God for not doing his part. Stop to ask if we are doing our part.

FRUSTRATING GOD'S PLAN...his will isn't measured by good feelings/sunny results. Being faithful may invite suffering to us. You are the only one who can frustrate/delay God's will. Other people can add to your pain or complicate our lives. But we stand alone with God at the point of accountability. Our bad choices won't stop his will but we can delay it from taking shape

SEEKING GOD'S KINGDOM FIRST...serving Jesus won't result in the ABSENCE OF CONFLICT but the PRESENCE OF COURAGE DURING CONFLICT. Following him doesn't lead to a EASY CHAIR, but to a CROSS where we deny self and put others first. Jesus tells us to "put God's Kingdom first" but we prefer to build up our Kingdoms. Life's biggest choice isn't which job to take, or which person to marry but what will my life represent? Will I live FOR or AGAINST GOD?

