

Christian Life Center, A Foursquare Church | 951-689-6785 | Discipleshipdevelopment.org

PART 3 | **LIVING GOD'S WILL ON EARTH**

From personal surrender to global mission

MATTHEW 6:10 ...*Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven*.

1. **When Jesus taught us to use His prayer pattern in Matthew 6:10**, "Your Kingdom come, Your will be done," He was teaching us to surrender what we want to what God wants... this is a tremendous leap for all of us!

2. **Three themes**: The coming of the Kingdom, the accomplishing of God's will, and the alignment of God's people with the Kingdom's values and purposes.
   - Note: this is not Dominion Theology, Reconstructionism, or Kingdom Now Theology.

3. **We are not necessarily praying for God to improve earthly circumstances**. Instead, we are asking for His sovereign reign to be manifested in the world through His people.
   - Philippians 2:15-16 ...*so that you may become blameless and pure, "children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation." Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain*.

TWO DIMENSIONS OF GOD'S WILL

1. **God's sovereign will** | There are things God has sovereignly determined to accomplish without human intervention.
   - Creation, the Cross, Second Coming, etc.
   - Hebrews 1:1-4 ...*upholding all things by the Word of His power...*
   - A few other scriptures include Isaiah 46:9–10; Daniel 4:35; Ephesians 1:11; 2 Timothy 1:9...

2. **God's revealed will** | Here God invites us to participate in what He desires to accomplish on earth. This aspect of God's will can be resisted or disobeyed.
   - Micah 6:8 *He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God*.
   - John 15:15 ...*for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you*.

- Philippians 2:13 ...*for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose...*

3. **By praying for His will to be done** we are asking that His desires are embraced and obeyed through His people on earth, just as they are in Heaven.

A FEW EXAMPLES OF HIS WILL...

1. **God's will concerning Himself.**
   - Psalm 113:3 *From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the Name of the LORD is to be praised.*

2. **God's will concerning each other.**
   - Micah 6:8 *He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.*
     - We are to do what is right in God's eyes even when it costs us. (Proverbs 21:3)
     - He wants to create a heart of compassion in us. Just as God has forgiven us, be quick to forgive and extend His forgiveness to others. (Ephesians 4:32)
     - We are to live in dependence upon God... everyday! He wants us to surrender our pride, our desires, and our own will and allow Him to direct our life... even when it may contradict your own will and desires. (Proverbs 3:5–6)
   - **1 Thessalonians 5:16–18** *Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in alL circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

3. **God's will concerning the world.**
   - 1 Kings 8:60 *So that all the peoples of the earth may know that the LORD is God and that there is no other.*

SURRENDERING OUR WILL TO HIS

1. **God's will begins in our lives** when we determine to actively choose to follow His will and His plans. The highest expression of walking in God's will is to become so intimate with Him that what He desires becomes what we desire.

2. **How can I practically surrender myself to Your purposes**? The first step is to ask God to make you willing! Even the desire to do His will is breathed into us by the Holy Spirit.
   - Psalm 143:10 *Teach me to do your will, for you are my God;...* I have absolutely have NO ability to create anything in my life (Matthew 5:3;). EVERY need is answered as He breathes and speaks into my life. When God speaks, what did not exist comes into existence!! (Genesis 1:3-26 And God said,...)

3. **The "delight in Him" principle**.
   - Psalm 37:3-7 ...*Take delight in the LORD, and He will give you the desires of your heart...*

- Psalm 40:8 *I desire to do your will, my God, Your law is within my heart*.

4. **In John 4:34**, Jesus tells His disciples, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent me and to finish his work." And ultimately in Luke 22:42 Yet not my will, but yours be done.

5. **As we seek first His Kingdom** EVERYTHING will be provided! Matthew 6:33 *But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well*.

DISCERNING GOD'S WILL AND DIRECTION IN YOUR LIFE.

In his book "Take Another Look at Guidance," Bob Mumford writes about a dangerous harbor in Italy where ships must navigate between rocks and shallow water. Three tall lights are placed in line so that when the ship is on course, all three lights appear as one. If the captain sees separate lights, the ship is headed to disaster. **Here are "the lights"...**

1. **The Word of God** | Psalm 119:105 *Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path*.
   - God's Word is the unchanging standard against which every impression and decision must be tested. (2 Timothy 3:16–17)

2. **The Holy Spirit** | Romans 8:14 *For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God*.
   - The Holy Spirit leads us (as we're "leadable!") and gives direction and discernment. (John 16:13 and Acts 13:2)

3. **Circumstances**, Acts 16:6–10 ...*but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to*...
   - God closed the doors to Asia for Paul... twice, before receiving direction to go to Macedonia (The Philippian Church). God uses circumstances to redirect our journey. Proverbs 16:9.

THE CHURCH... FROM LOCAL TO GLOBAL.

1. **The Great Commission from Acts 1:8** *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem (Riverside), and in all Judea (Surrounding areas) and Samaria (Nation within a nation, Native Americans), and to the ends of the earth (Tibetans in China and India).* (Also from Matthew 28:18-20)

2. **We must be faithful to the LORD's will** (calling) and the purpose He has revealed to us as a church.
   - Reaching, Restoring, Equipping, Extending.
   - One team... Praying, Giving, Going.
   - As a church we are to extend to (reach) unreached and unengaged peoples, to stand on their soil in prayer, and to see His name known and glorified among the nations. Here's where we talk to God about people, not talking to people about God.

3. **There <u>over</u> 2 BILLION people who have NO access to Gospel and have NO way of hearing about Him.**
   - Understanding the "10/40 Window. Inside the 10/40 Window are 3.4 billion unreached people…
     A concentration of unreached people groups. Many have little or no access to an established Christian witness within their own culture.
     Major world religions. The region includes large populations practicing Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism, along with other religious traditions.
     Significant barriers to Gospel access. There are restrictions on religious activity, geographical isolation, linguistic barriers, or limited access to Scripture in their own languages.

Questions

1. Are you placing your trust in God and His Word, or are is your security and affections on the temporary things of this world?

2. How willing are you to surrender every area of your life to God's will and purposes? Is there anything you are holding back from Him? If so, what makes it difficult to fully trust Him and surrender to His will?

SCAN THE CODES

On the left: CLC Ministry Model. **On the right**: "Beautiful Feet" video.