

Knowing God's Will

It is God's Will For You To Be Thankful

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

1. **Be Saved** (Romans 8:28-30)
Salvation is a command that is sinful to disregard (Acts 17:30). God is active in all circumstances, working all things to work together for the Christian's good (cf. Gen 50:20; Acts 2:22-24).
2. **Be Spirit-Filled** (Ephesians 5:15-21)
Being Spirit-filled is when the Holy Spirit is the controlling influence of the Christian's life. This is achieved through submission to the Word (cf. Col 3:16), and is characterized with godly wisdom in daily activities (James 3:13-17).
3. **Be Sanctified** (1 Thessalonians 4:1-8)
To say that God's will is for your sanctification is to say that God wants you to live a holy life. God's will is for you to do, or not do, what He has commanded
4. **Be Satisfied** (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)
God is the one who provides for us all that we need (Matt. 6:25-34; 1 Tim. 6:17; James 1:17). If we are satisfied in His provision, we will rejoice over what He has given to us, pray constantly, and give Him thanks for all that He has provided (cf. Phil 4:4-7).
5. **Be Submissive** (1 Peter 2:13-17)
Submission is your willful and orderly obedience to someone who rightfully has authority over you (cf. James 4:7). Submission does not equal weakness; the greatest example of submission was by the most powerful Person (cf. Phil 2:8).
6. **Be Willing to Suffer** (1 Peter 4:12-19)
The gospel calls the believer to follow Jesus on the path of suffering, possibly unto death (Matt 10:38; 16:24; cf. John 16:33).
7. **Do What You Want** (Gal. 5:1, 13)
If you are a Christian (#1) and consciously seeking obey God what God has commanded (#2-#6), do what you want while remembering both the wisdom of God and the freedom in Christ.
 - A. Remember Wisdom: Making use of wisdom and wise counsel is always good to include in the decision making process (cf. Prov 12:15; 19:20; Eph 5:15-16; James 1:5; 3:17).
 - B. Remember Freedom: We are free in Christ, not to sin (Rom 6:1), but to do and enjoy all that God has created while loving God and loving others more than we love the those things (Gal. 5:13; cf. Rom. 14:1ff; 1 Cor. 8:9; 10:23ff).