

Lent Day 35, March 26, 2012 Guidance

See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

Ephesians 5:15-17

One of the things that many of us struggle with is discerning what the will of the Lord is. We wonder what career to pursue, which person to marry, when to have children, where to live, and so on. Life is made up of choices and decisions. I know in my life, I've often wished God would send me a telegram to let me know what I should do.

Well, one thing is clear from today's Bible verse. God does want us to know what His will is. I've found a free resource that I think will be useful to you called The Secret of Guidance by F. B. Meyer.

F. B. Meyer was an internationally known British minister and evangelist for more than 60 years. He lived from 1847-1929. I hope you enjoy this resource. There are two versions below for you to choose from.

First, I'd like to share a few things I've learned over the years about determining God's will.

- 1) Before you do anything else, pray. It seems obvious, but maintaining constant communication with God is so important. We need to be in a position where we can hear him.
- 2) Don't make a snap decision. I'm not saying that God can't work this way, but in my experience, my best decisions aren't made on the spur of the moment because those decisions are often driven by emotion.
- 3) Seek confirmation. God will often start the process with me by planting the seed of an idea or desire in my heart. Over the next weeks and sometimes months, He'll water that seed and continue to put it before me. He'll confirm the idea through His Word, through other people, and through sermons and songs I hear. It starts to become a "theme" in my life.
- 4) Look for open doors. He opens up opportunities that coincide with the idea or desire.
- 5) Check with scripture. Make sure that whatever it is does not go against scripture, because God will never ask you to do something that violates His Word.

Look below for your free copy of the book.

The Secret of Guidance by F. B. Meyer, free download

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Application: Read this book and think about how you make decisions in your life. Is there anything you need to change about this process?

Prayer: Lord,

Help me to hear you clearly. I need to take the time to spend in your presence, to hear Your voice. I pray for wisdom and discernment. Guide me through Your Word, and show me the path I should be on. Amen.