

Champions/Women of Destiny

LESSON 9



Are You Going In The Right Direction?

Read Psalm 119:169-176; Philippians 4:6

A story from Marvin Daniels, former Kaleo and Higher Ground Director:

During the summer of 1996 I had chartered a bus to take 45 of my students from my youth group to Kids Across America from Chicago. What would have normally taken us 10 hours had taken us nearly 16! I had asked the driver several times about his certainty of his directions and he reassured me that we were heading in the right direction.

Finally, after 13 hours, I asked him if he had a map? To my disappointment he was going off of his experience of the area instead of a clear, specific route to our destination. That's why we were lost!

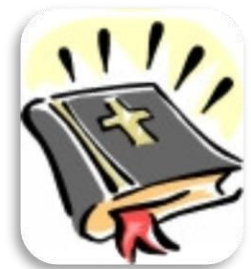
Many of your friends are like our bus driver. They feel like they can live life based upon their experiences or knowledge of an area instead of using a map. For the Christian, God grants us a map for living life and making good decisions . . . His Word.

The next few lessons will look at the resources God provides for us that help us do His will and make good, godly decisions.

The Use of Scripture

Use Psalm 119:169-176 for this section:

The two most important resources we have for making decisions that glorify God are the Bible and prayer. Psalm 119 emphasizes the fact that God's Word gives direction for living, and obeying it brings us joy and blessing. In verses 169-176, the psalmist describes 8 ways the Word of God helps you in your daily living.



1. **It gives me common sense to do what is right** (v. 169)
2. **It delivers me from danger or giving in to sin** (v. 170)
3. **It teaches me to praise God as I learn about Him and what He expects of me** (v. 171)
4. **It instructs me how to live for God** (v. 172)
5. **It encourages me to follow God's commands and live for Him** (v. 173)
6. **It fills my life with joy as I obey His Word** (v. 174)
7. **It keeps me going when life gets rough** (v. 175)
8. **It brings me back to God when I disobey Him** (v. 176)

God's Word teaches us how to please Him. It gives us directions for making good decisions and guidelines for following Him. Listen to what the author of Psalm 119 wrote in verse 105: **"Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."** God has already told us what His will is.

He communicated it through His Word. **The problem isn't that we don't know what His will is; it's that we don't always want to do what He says.**

God's ultimate will for our lives is to know Him, love Him, and obey Him like His Son, Jesus Christ: *"For God knew His people in advance, and He chose them to become like His Son, so that His Son would be the firstborn, with many brothers and sisters."* (NLT) -Romans 8:29. In order to become more like Jesus, we have to know what the Bible teaches about Him.

When you became a Christian, you didn't become fully Christlike immediately. Growing to be Christlike is a process, not an overnight transformation. That process involves a lifetime of decisions based on the Truth and principles of God's Word.

Prayer- An Ultimate Resource for Believers

Notice that the writer of Psalm 119 linked Scripture with prayer for knowing and doing God's will.



Both are necessary for wise decision-making. We don't need to worry about the difficult situations in our lives and the difficult decisions we must make. Instead, we can and should pray and fully trust God to help us know what is right. As we learn His Word and talk to Him in prayer, we can know God's will.

The Apostle Paul also called attention to the resource of prayer in Philippians 4:6 when he said ***"Don't worry about anything; instead pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank Him for all He has done."***

Prayer is a wonderful privilege, but it is only for believers. We can go directly into God's presence through our risen Savior Jesus Christ (Hebrews 4:16). Prayer is simply talking to God about anything and everything in your life. As your heavenly Father, God wants you to talk to Him just like you do to your earthly parents or guardians (unless that is disrespectfully).

Paul uses two other words that are included in prayer. The first one is **supplication or petition** (*telling God what you need*). It refers to asking or telling God specific things. It carries the idea of asking with **intensity** for those things we really want God to do in our life.

The second word is **thanksgiving**. It reminds us that prayer is far more than just asking God for things. In thanksgiving, we praise God for who He is and for His love. We praise Him for sending Jesus Christ to die on the cross for our sins. We praise Him for raising Christ from the dead. We praise Him for His power in our lives to glorify Him, and for the hope of spending eternity with Him. We praise Him, too, for His answers to our prayers.



So pray about everything – big and little decisions you must make. Keep talking to God and trusting Him, and He'll help you make good decisions.

A Few Thoughts

Applying Scripture to meet our daily needs and talking to God in prayer are the two most important resources we have for good decision-making and doing God's will. **But how often do you study the Bible to find out what God wants you to do or not do? And how often do you really ask God to help you make good decisions? (not after you already made them)**



Instead of praying in a general way, “**Show me Your will God,**” ask God to help you be a better decision-maker. **Look up the following passages and write down what they say about making decisions.**

Note: You don't have to send this in to KAA. This is a personal activity for your own benefit.

Proverbs 2:1-9 _____

Matthew 22:37-39 _____

James 1:22 _____

Proverbs 19:20 _____

Psalms 1:1-2 _____

Romans 12:9 _____

1 Corinthians 10:31 _____

Philippians 2:3-4 _____

Memory Verses

Memorize Psalm 119:105 and Philippians 4:6 using whatever Bible version you desire.

Now watch this Supplemental Video about your lesson:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sc3QKhOMcx0>

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Lesson 9 Quiz



Click here if you are taking your quiz online, then send the email you receive to your mentor to grade and discuss: <https://forms.gle/U6hAdPnU3yBGBE3CA>

Student name _____

1. Multiple choice. How does God's Word help us to know His will?
 - a. It tells us how to live for God.
 - b. It gives us principles for making good decisions.
 - c. It brings us back to God when we disobey Him.
 - d. All of the above.
2. True or False. God wants me to obey His commands only when they agree with my desires.
3. What is God's ultimate will for my life?
4. True or False. We immediately become just like Christ when we receive Him as our Savior.
5. True or False. When we pray, we should always begin by telling God our problems and needs.
6. Fill in the blanks. Your _____ is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my _____.
7. Fill in the blanks. Be careful for _____; but in _____ by prayer and _____ with thanksgiving let your _____ be made known to _____.
8. Define supplication.
9. Why should your prayers include thanksgiving?
10. True or False. God gave us the Bible primarily for fun and pleasure reading.