

# PREPARATION TO KNOW GOD'S WILL

Chuck Gianotti – 5/21/03

## 1. Enjoy the Lord.

*Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.* Psalm 37:4

## 2. Desire to know and obey God's will

Longing: What do you really long for in life?  
*Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.* Matthew 6:10

Yieldedness: God guides those with yielded wills.  
*If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God...* John 7:17

Trust: God for his wisdom and love  
*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."* Jeremiah 29:11

Humbleness: Move beyond me-centered living.  
*He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way.* Psalm 25:9

## 3. Be willing to sacrifice

*... anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.*  
Matt 10:38-39

## 4. Come clean – in lifestyle and attitudes of heart.

*If I had cherished sin in my heart, the LORD would not have listened ...* Psalm 66:18

## 5. Be willing to be counted a fool

*When his [i.e. Jesus] family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, "He is out of his mind."* Mark 3:21

*You are out of your mind, Paul!* Acts 26:24

## 10 STEPS TO DISCOVERING GOD'S WILL

### 1. Study the Word – diligently. Most of his will is revealed there.

*Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.* 2 Timothy 2:15

### 2. Pray – dependently. God is the one who reveals His will.

*If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind....*  
James 1:5-6

### 3. Seek counsel – humbly. Don't be afraid to ask input from others.

*Listen to advice and accept instruction, and in the end you will be wise.* Proverbs 19:20

*Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked.* Psalm 1:1

### 4. Evaluate circumstances – wisely. Don't stack the deck (Judges 6:36-40).

5. **Listen – carefully to the voice of the Holy Spirit**  
*“After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it ... a voice said to him ... 1 Kings 19:12-13*
6. **Think – deeply. Use your head.**  
*I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you. Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you. Psalm 32:8-9*
7. **Consider – affectionately. Where’s your heart?**  
*Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4*
8. **Wait – patiently. Give God time to respond.**  
*Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him, do not fret ... Psalm 37:7*
9. **Choose – loyally. What will bring God most glory**  
*...in all things [may] God be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and power for ever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 4:11b*
10. **Move – boldly. Don’t be afraid of mistakes.**  
*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6*

**Watch – Expectantly!**