



TEACH ME TO DO THY WILL

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“Thy will be done.” We have all prayed this simple prayer that carries more weight than we could ever hope to realize. God has a plan for each and every one of us and by praying this four-word prayer; we are asking God to put that plan into action. With this prayer, we are asking God to plan our lives, to lead us in the direction He has for us, and to completely take over. With this simple prayer, we are asking for God’s will above our own.

We all have a plan for our lives, whether it is a certain career choice, location preference, or even a ministry we have in mind. We can plan our lives out perfectly in our heads and also create a Pinterest board just in case someone needs visuals of these supposed perfect plans. We can even plan our lives in such detail that we can tell God exactly what age we would like to start working, get married, or begin a family. We make all of these perfectly thought-out suggestions to our Lord and say “Okay, God. Thy will be done, but here is the way I see my life going.” With all of our suggestions in mind, sometimes life goes according to plan; however, life can sometimes take a turn that we never saw coming.

When life does not seem to go according to our perfect plans, how do we deal with the frustration of letting go of what we want and allowing God to have His will be done? In Psalm 143:10, David writes, “Teach me to do your will, for you are my God. May your gracious Spirit lead me forward on a firm footing.” As we see in the Bible, David’s life did not go according to his plan. At one moment he was just a shepherd and then the next moment he is anointed to be king of all of Israel. Talk about a major plan changer. This lowly shepherd, who no one paid attention to, had to learn how to become king of an entire nation. David could’ve hidden in his self-proclaimed inadequacy. He could’ve listened to the doubt of his brothers and peers and given up. He could’ve even crossed boundaries set by God to get to the spot promised to him, but instead, David prayed, “Teach me to do your will, for you are my God.”

In that moment, David let go of his past, pride, doubt, fears, and plans and truly asked for the Lord’s will. He casted his cares upon the Lord and sought to learn from our Creator how to do God’s will. David also made one simple request: May Your gracious Spirit lead me forward on firm footing. David asked for God’s grace to lead him forward on a firm footing. It is by God’s grace that we as humans are even able to live for the Lord and do His will. David recognized in this moment that he may not know how to do God’s will or even where God’s will would lead him; he only knew that he wanted God’s will before anything else because he served the almighty, all powerful, one, true God. David also knew that it didn’t matter what else he had, all he needed was God’s gracious Spirit to lead him forward on a firm footing.

When seeking God’s perfect plan and will, we may have to throw away all of our plans in order to reach for a higher calling. We may have to walk by faith and not by sight. We may even have to lose something to gain something so much greater. In saying, “Thy will be done,” we may have to let go, trust God, and allow Him to lead us in HIS plan. Then, when we allow God to have His way, we can see that through His mighty power at work within us, God can accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think (Ephesians 3:20 NLT).