

HOW TO KNOW GOD'S WILL

The Lord says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you. Do not be like a senseless horse or mule that needs a bit and bridle to keep it under control." Psalm 32:8-9 (NLT)

HOW GOD GUIDES YOU

1. GOD GUIDES YOU THROUGH _____

"Nothing is perfect except your words. Oh, how I love them. I think about them all day long. They make me wiser than my enemies because they are my constant guide. Yes, wiser than my teachers, for I am ever thinking of your rules. They make me even wiser than the aged." Ps 119:96-100 (The Living Bible)

2. GOD GUIDES YOU THROUGH _____

"Each morning let me learn more about your love because I trust you. I come to you in prayer, asking for your guidance." Ps 143:8 (CEV)

"Do not let your people practice fortune-telling, or use sorcery, or interpret omens, or engage in witchcraft, or cast spells, or function as mediums or psychics, or call forth the spirits of the dead. Anyone who does these things is detestable to the Lord." Deuteronomy 18:10b-12a (NLT)

3. GOD GUIDES YOU THROUGH _____

"What's more, who can say but that God has brought you into the palace for just such a time as this?" Es 4:14 (The Living Bible)

4. GOD GUIDES YOU THROUGH _____

"Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch over you." Proverbs 4:6

"It is not good to have zeal without knowledge, nor to be hasty and miss the way. A man's own folly ruins his life, yet his heart rages against the Lord."

Proverbs 19:2-3

5. GOD GUIDES YOU THROUGH _____

"Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed."

Proverbs 15:22

"Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful." 1 Corinthians 4:2

3 CATEGORIES: _____

RELAX AND REMEMBER...

_____ IS FAR MORE IMPORTANT THAN _____

Now Lot, who was moving about with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents. But the land could not support them while they stayed together, for their possessions were so great that they were not able to stay together. And quarreling arose between Abram's herdsmen and the herdsmen of Lot...So Abram said to Lot, "Let's not have any quarreling between you and me, or between your herdsmen and mine, for we are brothers. Is not the whole land before you? Let's part company. If you go to the left, I'll go to the right; if you go to the right, I'll go to the left." Lot looked up and saw that the whole plain of the Jordan was well watered, like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt, toward Zoar.. So Lot chose for himself the whole plain of the Jordan and set out toward the east. The two men parted company. Genesis 13:5-11

"In everything you do, put God first, and he will direct you and crown your efforts with success." Pr 3:6 (The Living Bible)

Food for Thought

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. In 1 Kings 13:1-26, we see the consequences of not listening to the clear voice of God. After reading the story, answer the questions below.

What was the clear command of God for the young prophet?

What caused him to disobey God's clear command and what were the consequences of his disobedience?

Why do you think the young prophet so readily listened to the old prophet?

How does this passage illustrate what John shared in his sermon about "what if the five don't agree?"

2. The Apostles were people who consistently listened to the Holy Spirit. At times they wrote about specific things God told them to do. Yet at other times, their Spirit-directed decisions were communicated without a lot of "God talk." Notice in the verses below the normal words used to explain their actions.

1 Thessalonians 3:1, Philippians 2:25, 1 Corinthians 16:4, Acts 6:2, Acts 15:28

How could these examples affect the way you would talk about a decision you believe the Lord has led you to make?

3. In the two passages below, identify the wise counsel given, the response to that wise counsel, and the outcome of following or rejecting the wise counsel.

Exodus 18:17-26, 2 Chronicles 10:1-17

What benefits have you received from listening to wise counsel? What consequences have you paid for not listening to it?

4. As you look back on the five voices of God, which of them do you have the easiest time hearing? Which do you have the hardest time hearing? What steps can you take to more clearly hear God speaking to you through that voice?