

EXPERIENCING GOD

God's Will and Your Life

Looking for More in Your Experience of God?

- Hear when God is speaking to you
- Clearly identify the activity of God in your life
- Believe Him to be and do everything He promises
- Adjust your beliefs, character, and behavior to Him and His ways
- See a direction that He is taking in your life and what He wants to do through your life
- Clearly know what you need to do in response to His activity in your life and
- Experience God doing through you what only God can do!

You cannot depend on traditions, your experience, or the experience of others to be accurate authorities on God's will and ways. The Bible is God's Word to you and the Holy Spirit is your teacher.

We Must...

- Agree that God is absolutely trustworthy
- Agree with God that you will follow Him one day at a time
- Agree that you will follow Him even when He does not spell out all the details
- Agree that you will let Him be your Way

Ask the right question to get the right answer...

What is God's will? Once I know His will, then I can adjust my life to Him.

Watch to see where God is working and join Him. When you enter this kind of intimate love relationship with God, you will know and do the will of God and experience Him in ways you have never known Him before. Only God can bring you into that kind of relationship.

Personalize it! God is always at work around ME.

Learning to Be a Servant of God

Important Questions...

1. Will there be a difference between the quality of service and the quantity of lasting results when God is working and when you are working?
2. What are you doing in your life personally and in your church that you know cannot be accomplished unless God intervenes? Could much of what we are doing in our lives and in our churches be done without reference to God at all?
3. When we finish a task and feel frustrated that lasting spiritual fruit is not visible could the reason be that we are attempting very little that only God can do?

God works through His servants. You cannot stay the way you are and go with God.

When God is about to do something through you, He has to get you from where you are to where He is. He comes and tells you what He is doing. When you know what God is doing, then you know what you need to do – you need to join Him.

Three similarities in the lives of Bible characters through whom God worked...

- When God spoke, they knew it was God.
- They knew what God was saying.
- They knew what they were to do in response.

Seven Realities of Experiencing God

1. God is always at work around you.
2. God pursues a continuing love relationship with you that is real and personal.
3. God invites you to become involved with Him in His work.
4. God speaks by the Holy Spirit through the Bible, prayer, circumstances, and the church to reveal Himself, His purposes, and His ways.
5. God's invitation for you to work with Him always leads you to a crisis of belief that requires faith and action.
6. You must make major adjustments in your life to join God in what He is doing.
7. You come to know God by experience as you obey Him and He accomplishes His work through you.

Moses' Journey Through the Seven Realities

1. God already was at work around Moses

Exodus 2:23-25, "During that long period, the king of Egypt died. The Israelites groaned in their slavery and cried out, and their cry for help because of their slavery went up to God. God heard their groaning and he remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and with Jacob. So God looked on the Israelites and was concerned about them."

2. God pursued a continuing love relationship with Moses that was real and personal

God pursued Moses. God took the initiative to come to Moses and initiate a love relationship with him at the burning bush. God told Moses that He would go with Moses to Egypt. Many texts in Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy show how God pursued a continuing love relationship with Moses.

3. God invited Moses to become involved with Him in His work

God had a purpose that He was working out in Moses' world. Even though Moses was in exile in the desert, he was right on God's schedule, right in the fullness of God's timing, right in the middle of God's will. At the time God was about to deliver the children of Israel, the important factor was not what the will of God was for Moses. The important factor was the will of God for Israel. God's purpose was to deliver the children of Israel. Moses was the one through whom God wanted to work to accomplish that.

4. God spoke to Moses to reveal Himself, His purposes, and His Ways

Remember that God speaks to us just as clearly today through His Word and the Holy Spirit as He spoke to Moses face to face.

5. God's invitation for Moses to work with Him led to a crisis of belief that required faith and action

Moses expressed this crisis of belief when he asked, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt? What if they do not believe me or listen to me?"

Moses offered many objections and in each case, Moses was really doubting God more than himself. He faced the crisis of belief...is God really able to do what He says?

Moses' crisis called for faith and action.

Hebrews 11:24-29, "By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the

king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. By faith he kept the Passover and the application of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel. By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned."

6. Moses had to make major adjustments in his life to join God in what He was doing

Moses had to come to terms with his own fears, faults and failures.

We must always remember that we can never stay where we are in life and join God in His work.

7. Moses came to know God by experience as he obeyed God and God accomplished His work through Moses

God accomplished through Moses what Moses could not do. God talked to Moses about His will. God revealed to Moses His holiness, His mercy, His power, His name, His purpose to keep His promise to Abraham and give Israel the promised land.

All the people you see in scripture were ordinary people. Their relationship with God and the activity of God is what made them extraordinary. Anyone who will take the time to enter into an intimate relationship with God can see God do extraordinary things through his or her life.

When you believe that nothing significant can happen through you, you have said more about your belief in God than you have said about yourself. The truth is He is able to do anything He pleases with one ordinary person fully consecrated to Him.

An ordinary person is who God most likes to use. Paul said God deliberately seeks out the weak things and the despised things because it is from them that He can receive the greatest glory. Then everyone knows only God could have done something through them. If you feel weak, limited, ordinary, you are the best material through which God can work.