

## Key Verses

Matthew 6:10; Matthew 7:21;  
 Matthew 12:50; Matthew 18:14;  
 Matthew 21:31; Ephesians 2:3;  
 Philippians 2:3a–5b; John 1:12–13;  
 Romans 6:1–12, 16; Matthew 26:42;  
 Ephesians 1:8b–10; James 1:2–8;  
 John 3:18; 2 Peter 3:9; Romans 1:9–  
 13; Romans 15:20–22;  
 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18

## Big Idea

The Only way for God's kingdom to come on earth is for His will, executed perfectly in heaven, to be done on earth. Without being born of the kingdom (John 3:5–6) we can not do God's will.

## Discussion Questions

1) How does the concept of "your will be done" in Matthew 6:10 relate to God's kingdom advancing on earth as it is in heaven?

2) The word 'will' in Matthew 6:10 is θέλημα thelēma (noun); from the verb θέλω thelō: that which results from the process of determination. What God determines to do is the act of his thesis (his will, the process used) and it is His thelēma (will). When we read of God's will we are not always told of his reasoning, but the word thelēma implies that God has a good reason for willing it. Often, God's thesis is not revealed to us when His will (thelēma) is.

- a. Have you ever felt led to follow God's will in doing something without knowing why you needed to do it?
- b. What happens in your heart and mind when you do God's will without knowing the purpose?

3) Read Matthew 26:42 and connect it to temptation in the wilderness (Matthew 4:8–10) and Peter drawing the sword (Matthew 26:50ff).

- a. What does Jesus's experience reveal about the dangers of doing God's will the wrong way at the wrong time?
- b. Have you had experiences where you have done God's will the wrong way or at the wrong time?

4) The human will does not always align with God's will. That is because the human heart is affected by outside influences. Scripture says that we are influenced by Satan (Acts 5:3,9; 2 Cor. 2:11; 4:4) and by fleshly, fallen desires (James 1:4; Rom. 7:11, 20; Gal. 3:1) – either our own, or of others.

- a. How does understanding the influence of outside forces on the human will help us grasp the importance of aligning our will with God's will?
- b. How do you actively guard against negative influences and align your desires with God's will more effectively?

6) How easy is it for you to become discouraged (double-minded) when the desire for things what God does not want continues despite prayer? How is the following statement, based on Ephesians 2:3 and James 1:2-8, helpful? “Being a Christ-follower is not about constantly succeeding, but constantly stiving.”

7) Almost every Christ follower has experiences where they have followed God’s heart, with the outcome not being what they expected. In those situations, how easy it for you to practice 1 Thessalonians 1:5-6?

8) How does Romans 1:9-13 provide insight into dealing with situations where our desires seem at odds with God's will, and how can we grow in wisdom in such circumstances?

## Notes

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