

Our Father Wants To Talk with Us!

Jas 1:5–8 (NKJV) — 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

- I. To reveal what is best for our lives because we do not know what is best for us.
Je 10:23 (NKJV) — 23 O Lord, I know the way of man is not in himself; It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps.

Pr 14:12 (NKJV) — 12 There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

- A. Life is choice driven.
- B. We continue to make poor choices. As a result, we live lives that are not the quality of life that Our Father would have us to live.
 - 1. For many of us it is easy to distinguish between right and wrong so that we can make the right choice.
 - a. But in many situations, it is hard to distinguish between what is permissible and what is beneficial.
 - b. Many of us live lives in the permissible will of Our Father but it is not in the perfect will of Our Father. If we would learn to walk in the perfect will of Our Father, we will experience Our Father's best.
- C. What is it that we can do to make our lives better?
- D. We can learn to follow the lead of the Lord who desires to bless us! We have so many places where Our Father says he is willing to show us the best way.
Ps 32:8 (NKJV) — 8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.

Is 48:17 (NKJV) — 17 Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, The Holy One of Israel: “I am the Lord your God, Who teaches you to profit, Who leads you by the way you should go.

- 1. He is willing to speak with us to let us know what we need to do in life. The question is, are we willing to listen to him?
- 2. I hope this message will help you to be able to discern the voice of Our Father when he is speaking what is right for you to do.
- 3. Job has made it perfectly clear that Our Father always speaks.
Job 33:14 (NKJV) — 14 For God may speak in one way, or in another, Yet man does not perceive it.
 - a. How do we learn to perceive his voice?

E. In this message I would like to share with you some of the things I have learned as a Pastor about how to hear the voice of The Father. I hope what I share with you will be a blessing to you.

II. I want to settle this from the beginning the two points I have already made.
Je 10:23 (NKJV) — 23 O Lord, I know the way of man is not in himself; It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps.

Ps 32:8 (NKJV) — 8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.

A. 1) We as human beings do not know what is right for us but
2) Our Father does and he is willing to reveal what is good for us to us.

**WE AS HUMAN BEINGS DO NOT KNOW WHAT IS RIGHT FOR US BUT
OUR FATHER DOES
HE IS WILLING TO REVEAL WHAT IS GOOD FOR US TO US IF WE ARE WILLING
TO LISTEN**

1. I will support this statement with various Scriptures today and from time to time over the next few weeks.

B. **Our father has promised us that he will lead us so** that we may have the best life. the following are a few scriptures you might want to write down and review so that you may build your faith in knowing that it is The Father's will to guide you in the right ways to go.
Ps 32:8 (NKJV) — 8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye. (also read to verse 11)

Ps 23:3 (NKJV) — 3 He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

Is 58:11 (NKJV) — 11 The Lord will guide you continually,And satisfy your soul in drought, And strengthen your bones; You shall be like a watered garden, And like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.

Pr 3:6 (NKJV) — 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

Ps 73:24 (NKJV) — 24 You will guide me with Your counsel, And afterward receive me to glory.

Is 30:21 (NKJV) — 21 Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," Whenever you turn to the right hand Or whenever you turn to the left.

Jas 1:5–8 (NKJV) — 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

1. There are many, many more and I will reveal them at another time

III. It is clear our Father intends to direct us in ways that are right and best for our life. How does he do it? By...

HIS WORD

A. The foundation upon which all revelation comes from is His written Word

1. **The Kindergarten levels**

2 Ti 3:16–17 (The Message) — 16 Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another—showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God’s way. 17 Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us.

2 Pe 1:19–21 (NKJV) — 19 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; 20 knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, 21 for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

Ps 138:2 (ESV) — 2 I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word.

HIS HOLY SPIRIT

B. The next level is by His Holy Spirit

1. **The Grade School levels**

Jn 16:13–15 (NKJV) — 13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. 14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. 15 All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.

1 Jn 2:20 (NKJV) — 20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things.

1 Jn 2:26–27 (NKJV) — 26 These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you. 27 But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.

HIS GIFTS

C. God then speaks by His Gifts

1. The High School levels

Eph 4:11–12 (NKJV) — 11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

Je 3:15 (NKJV) — 15 And I will give you **shepherds** according to My heart, who will feed you with **knowledge and understanding**.

Je 23:4 (NKJV) — 4 I will set up **shepherds** over them who will **feed them**; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, nor shall they be lacking,” says the Lord.

CIRCUMSTANCES

D. Through circumstances which he controls

1. The College levels

Ro 8:28 (NKJV) — 28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Is 46:11 (NKJV) — 11 Calling a bird of prey from the east, The man who executes My counsel, from a far country. Indeed I have spoken it; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed it; I will also do it.

IV. To Be Able To Follow The Guidance of the Father There are two prerequisites to hear him correctly

A. You must learn to deny Yourself

Now, one of the first things we must learn to do if we are going to follow the guidance of the father we have to learn what Jesus said first of all to do.

Mt 16:24 (NKJV) — 24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

1. It is difficult to follow the voice of The Father when your human voice is constantly speaking to you.

YOU MUST LEARN TO SHUT OUT THE VOICE OF SELF IF YOU'RE GOING TO FOLLOW THE VOICE OF THE FATHER.

2. Very often people are not really willing to listen to The Father but simply want The Father to agree with what they want. As a result, when they say they hear from The Father they are merely hearing their own voice speaking to themselves.
 - a. They know what they want, and they keep praying until they hear a voice saying what they want.
 - (1) They reject any voice that is opposite of what they want!
 - (2) What they're really trying to do is get The Father on their side instead of getting on The Father's side.
 - b. *People make decisions based upon what they want and then say it is God's will.*
 - (1) *they like the music, or a particular person at a church and then they say God called him to that church.*
 - (2) *They get mad with the pastor or someone at the church and then they say God told them to leave.*
 - (3) *They make decisions about whether God wants them in a particular job based upon how much money they make on that job.*
 - (4) *Personal note: I ask the father whether I should be a musician or a businessperson?*
 - (5) *They hear a particular prophet say a word they like and then they agree that it was God*
 - (6) *it is Sunday morning and they awake tired and it is raining, then, they conclude that it is God's will for them to stay at home that Sunday*
 - (7) *they don't have the money to pay for the car but the salesman keeps lowering the price so even though they cannot pay the note they conclude it's God's will for them to have it since they get such a good deal.*
 - c. ***I do not have to give you many examples you know of many that you have chosen to say is the will of God for your life.***
 - (1) *It is okay with God for me to have sex with this person because we love each other.*
 - (2) *It is okay with God for me not to pay tithes today because I have a bill to pay tomorrow.*
 - (a) *He knows my heart*
 - (b) *praise God for his grace!*

3. Listen, whenever the Father says something in his written word, you already know his will. There is no need to seek his will from his Holy Spirit.
 - a. I have known people who have asked should I married this particular person or not and they are seeking a word from The Father. They have revealed to me the person is not saved and they are praying as to whether The Father wants them to marry them are not. The word has clearly stated, **2 Co 6:14 (NKJV) — 14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?**
 - (1) You already know The Father's will. There is no need to ask for it.
 - (2) Thus, it is very important for you to know The Father's will you must first deny yourself.
4. **If you do not learn to deny yourself, The Father will let you have what you ask for even though it is not his will.** Just because The Father permits something to happen it does not mean he is in favor of it for you. It may be simply his permissive will to allow it to happen but not his perfect will.

1 Co 6:12 (NIV84) — 12 “Everything is permissible for me”—but not everything is beneficial. “Everything is permissible for me”—but I will not be mastered by anything.

 - (1) You have to learn to get yourself out of the way before you can be sure you are hearing from The Father.

B. You must take up your cross.

1. The cross is unique to every individual. It is the mission that God has called each individual life to.
2. Before the father formed you in the womb he had previously preordained what type of life he wanted you to live. That was his will for you.

Eph 1:11–12 (NKJV) — 11 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, 12 that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.

Je 1:5 (NKJV) — 5 “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations.”

Je 1:9–10 (NKJV) — 9 Then the Lord put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me: “Behold, I have put My words in your mouth. 10 See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, To root out and to pull down, To destroy and to throw down, To build and to plant.”

3. The father has already given you what you need to accomplish the mission he has designed for your life.
 - a. all you need to do is to work with what you already know
4. You must determine what you have been preordained for by evaluating a life and look at the gift things he has given to you. These gift things have been with you all of your life waiting on you to develop them.

V. How Do We Deny Ourselves?

- A. Jesus tells us we must first deny ourselves. This lines up with what Paul tells us when he says if we want to know the will of The Father for our lives.

Ro 12:1 (NKJV) — 1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

1. You see, you must present your body to serve and then...

Ro 12:2 (NKJV) — 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

2. You cannot let the system of the world control your thinking. you must meditate both day and night upon the word of God.

YOU DENY YOURSELF, BY PRESENTING YOUR BODY TO SERVE AND STUDY FOR YOUR MIND TO BE RENEWED

THEN, YOU BEGIN TO RECEIVE REVELATION OF THE WILL OF GOD FOR YOUR LIFE

VI. You must then take up your cross!

- A. A part of your transformation spoken of in Romans 12:2 is the ability to hear the will of the father progressively. But before this can happen you must deny yourself by presenting your body as a living sacrifice to serve in the body of Christ with a renewed mind in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.

**TAKE UP YOUR CROSS;
THE MISSION GOD HAS CALLED YOU TO**

Ro 12:3–6 (NKJV) — 3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. 4 For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, 5 so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith;

YOU GROW IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE WILL OF GOD AS YOU OPERATE IN THE WILL OF GOD YOU KNOW.

1. in other words, as you are faithful in a few things you will be made knowledgeable and more things to be more faithful in greater things.

Jn 7:17 (NKJV) — 17 If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority.

Jn 7:17 (ESV) — 17 If anyone's will is to do God's will, he will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own authority.

WE MUST LEARN TO DISCIPLINE OURSELVES TO CONTINUALLY DO WHAT WE ALREADY KNOW IS RIGHT SO THAT WE MAY CLEARLY HEAR HIS VOICE TO KNOW WHAT IS PERFECT FOR OUR LIFE.

- VII. Now, in summary
- A. Our father wants to talk with us because we do not know what is best for us.
 - B. We must make a willful decision to listen to his voice so that we may experience our best life.
 - C. God speaks to us
 1. by his word
 2. by his Holy Spirit
 3. by his gifts
 4. through circumstances
 - D. to follow the guidance of the father we must learn to deny ourselves, take up our cross-which is our mission and then follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit that he will reveal to us
 - E. We position ourselves to hear the voice of our father by
 1. presenting our bodies to serve utilizing the gifts he has given us
 2. when we are faithful in the gifts we know, he reveals to us the things we don't know so that we may do them.
 - F. the more we do the more he gives revelation to us.