

# DECISION MAKING & GOD'S WILL

## Part 2: How to Know God's Will



### SELF-QUIZ

	TRUE	FALSE
You always have to guess what God's will is.		
You always have to seek God's will for every decision you make.		
God is always hiding his will and you must find it.		

### CASE STUDY



A flight attendant spent a week's vacation in the Rockies. She was captivated by the mountain peaks, the clear blue skies, and the sweet-smelling pines. But she also was charmed by a very eligible bachelor who owned and operated a cattle ranch and lived in a log cabin. At the end of this week, Mr. Wonderful proposed. But it had all happened so quickly that the woman decided to return home and to her job, feeling that she would somehow be guided to make the right decision.

The next day, in flight, she found herself wondering what to do. To perk up, she stopped in the rest room and splashed some cool water on her face. There was some turbulence and a sign in the rest room lit up: "PLEASE RETURN TO THE CABIN." She did, and went back to the cabin in the mountains and accepted the eligible bachelor's proposal.

## DISCUSSION GROUPS

1. Do you think this flight attendant used the right approach to making her decision?
2. What advice would you have given to this flight attendant before she was about to make her decision?

## TYPES OF DECISIONS

M. Blaine Smith ("Knowing God's Will) offers the following types of decisions and how to respond to them:

DECISION TYPE	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSE
Straightforward moral decisions	Adultery, pornography, murder, stealing, idolatry, etc.	
Complicated moral decisions	Abortion, Christian response to war, capital punishment, etc.	
Complex decisions	Profession to choose, college to attend, whether to marry or not, what church to attend, how to spend your time and money.	
Gray area decisions	Smoking, drinking, dancing, gambling, movies, eating meat offered to idols.	
Straightforward nonmoral decisions	What shirt to wear, what foods to eat, hobbies to take up, etc.).	

## SIX WAYS TO FIND GOD'S WILL

**1. Look for \_\_\_\_\_.**

- What does the Bible say about marriage, money, church, etc.

**2. Look for \_\_\_\_\_.**

- These are often the two most obvious ways that God uses to reveal His will for you.
- For instance, if you apply for a job, and several turn down your application, you should probably conclude that God is closing doors and saying, 'No.'

**3. Look for \_\_\_\_\_.**

- The inner witness is that ministry of the Holy Spirit in which He guides the believer through personal impressions, and inner peace within the heart, to reveal God's individual will.
- "And the peace (inner rest, harmony, absence of anxiety) of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4:7 NIV)

**4. When necessary, seek \_\_\_\_\_.**

- God's individual will can be revealed through other mature, Bible-believing Christians whose walk is consistent with God's word.
- However, the Holy Spirit is to be the final Counselor.

**5. Examine your \_\_\_\_\_.**

- Our real desires will correspond perfectly to God's will when we are living in obedience to His Word.

**6. Use \_\_\_\_\_.**

- Sometimes you may feel that you are being led to do something which doesn't make sense to you.
- Guidance, which appears to go against common sense, should be followed only if the Lord gives you very clear and definite leading.