

GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NIV)

16 Be joyful always; **17** pray continually; **18** give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

- Have you ever asked, "What is the will of God for my life?"
- Although many of us have a specific calling on our lives, we all have the same will for our lives.
- The will of God for your life is to be happy, to pray, and to be thankful.
- Are you in the will of God right now?

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE DELIVERY

Psalm 100:4 (NIV)

Enter his gates **with** thanksgiving and his courts **with** praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

- What are you coming to church **with?**
- When you come to church you just be thanking and praising God.

Philippians 4:6 (NIV)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Philippians 4:6 (AMP)

Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything, but in every circumstance and in everything, by prayer and petition (definite requests), with thanksgiving, continue to make your wants known to God.

- When we come to God in prayer we are to be thankful.
- It's all about the delivery.
- No one wants someone coming to them with their head down and depressed all the time.
- Mix thankfulness into your prayer life and see what happens.

Q: Why is it important to be thankful when we pray?

A: Expressing thanks takes the attention off of us and magnifies the person that we are thanking.

- Notice it said to present your requests/wants to God.
- God is in the business of taking care of your needs **and** your wants.
- One way **not** to receive from God is to be unthankful.

YOU ARE CALLED

Colossians 3:15-17 (NIV)

15 *Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were **called** to peace. And be **thankful**.*

16 *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with **gratitude** in your hearts to God.*

17 *And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

Colossians 3:15-17 (Message)

Let the peace of Christ keep you in tune with each other, in step with each other. None of this going off and doing your own thing. And cultivate thankfulness. Let the Word of Christ—the Message—have the run of the house. Give it plenty of room in your lives. Instruct and direct one another using good common sense. And sing, sing your hearts out to God! Let every detail in your lives—words, actions, whatever—be done in the name of the Master, Jesus, thanking God the Father every step of the way.

- Not only does God have a will for our lives, there is a call as well...Peace.
- This scripture tells us to be thankful even in our worship.
- What situation are you facing right now?
- Allow God's will for your life to prevail in any situation by giving thanks.
- As you begin to do His will (thankfulness) you will enter into His call for your life (peace).
- What do you have to be thankful for this year?
- Acknowledging the things that you are thankful for in life will change your perspective.
- Let's start doing God's will for our lives!