

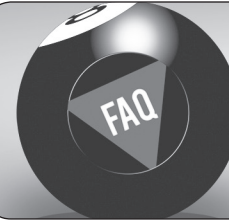
PRAYER

- Commit to serve His purpose in your generation.



Honor God. Make Disciples.

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Week 1

NOTES

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CONNECT

- What is your idea of a perfect day? Tell us what you would do.
- Are you an organizer and a planner, or do you function better being totally spontaneous? Explain.
- Tell about a time when you really did not want to do something, but you did it anyway. Why did you do it? What happened?

WORD

Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails.

Proverbs 19:21 (See also Isaiah 46:10 and Ephesians 1:5.)

WHAT

What does the Bible say?

Because God is God, His will, His plan, and His purpose will prevail. He has the right and authority to invoke His will here on earth. Because we are not God, we do not have the right or authority to demand our will be done. We are here to pray and work so that His will is established on earth as in heaven. What else does the Bible say about God's will, His purpose and His plan for our lives?

- **God's will is good, pleasing, and perfect.**

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:2

Many are afraid of submitting to God's will. If they really understood the nature of His will, they would not fear. What does Paul mean when he describes God's will as "good, pleasing, and perfect?" What are some ways you have experienced that God's will is good, pleasing and perfect?

- **God's plan includes prosperity, protection, and hope.**

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11

Does God's plan include harming us, or providing for us? How has God provided for you and protected you as you have obeyed His will? How has your commitment to God's will given you positive hope for your future?

- **God's purpose is unchanging.**

Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath.

Hebrews 6:17

If the nature of God's purpose is unchanging, does God have to switch to "plan B" when we sin or mess up? Or does He hold to His original purpose for our lives? Can we, through prayer, change God's purpose or plan for our lives?

- **God's purpose can be served or rejected.**

For when David had served God's purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his fathers and his body decayed.

Acts 13:36 (See also Luke 7:30)

How did David serve God's purpose in his generation? How did the Pharisees reject God's purpose? Do you think they realized they were rejecting God's purpose?

SO WHAT

What is the relevance of the Word to my life?

- How does man's will differ from God's will? How have you seen this in your own life?
- How do you feel about God's promise for you in Jeremiah 29:11? Do you believe He has plans to prosper you, and to give you a hope and a future? Why or why not?
- How can we serve or reject God's purpose in our generation? What do you think it would look like if you served God's purpose in your generation?

NOW WHAT

How do I apply the Word to my life?

- Do you ever fear God's will or plan for your life? Why? Do you really believe His will for your life is good and perfect? What can you do to hold on to God's promises for your life every day?
- Is there anything that keeps you from fully giving yourself to God's plan and purpose for your life? What will you do about it? How can you choose to serve God's purpose in your life starting this week?
- What can you do to serve God's purpose in your generation?