



God's Plans for Your Life, Lesson 5

Wouldn't it be wonderful and the most valuable gift to us if God would send down a blueprint for each of our lives?

Playing the "What if" game, let's ask:

1. **"What if"**...when we were born, we came with an instruction manual that He wrote out for you and your parents...a manual that would outline what we should do to follow His plan for our lives?
2. **"What if"**...life was consistently providing the way to read and comply with the instruction manual given?
3. **"What if"**...you reject to read the manual...refuse to comply with it, or...to conform and grow from the truth found in the manual.
4. **"What if"**...you only seek out the instruction manual of professors in our colleges...or of personalities who look to be successful in life.



The Provided Instruction Manual from God is available. It starts with the Word of God and it ends with a question...

Are you willing to follow the Instruction Manual if given to you?

Summary of the Instruction Manual from God as to His plans for Us in This Life"

God's wonderful plan for our life is that we repent, believe in him, and fight sin through his power. God's wonderful plan for our life is sober-

mindedness, sexual purity, and that we “walk not as unwise, but wise, making the most of our time because the day is evil” (Ephesians 5:15-16).

Sometimes, life can be so confusing and stressful that it can be difficult to understand what God wants for us and from us over the noise of the world and the sounds of all the obligations pulling at us.

The truth is, God knows what He wants for us and from us and, in turn, desires that we yield to the understanding that He is in control of our plan. He has the blueprint for our lives drawn up. Questions: Is our “willer” in tune with His will? Are we willing to comply with His blueprint?

He is guiding us putting seeds in our hearts; and, like a gardener, He waters the seeds He plants within our hearts.

God sees you; He hears you, and He answers your prayers.

This life can be hard, but:

- ***Through trials, the Lord makes us stronger.***
- ***During times of tribulation, our faith is able to grow and multiply.***
- ***Suffering produces perseverance and character, which leads to hope that allows God to pour into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.***

While there is pressure from society to succeed and meet a certain standard that the world holds us to, through God and the calling He places on our lives, we are able to achieve what He wants for our lives.

How can I know what God’s plan is?

Most Christians truly desire to understand God’s plan for their lives. Yet there are many questions:

- **How do I discover God’s plan?**
- **How can I be sure once I discover it?**

Fortunately, the Bible provides many important principles regarding the will of God. God is not trying to hide His will for our lives; He wants His children to know His will and follow it.

There are four (4) truths about discovering God’s plan for you:

(1) The Bible is filled with clear and precise statements regarding God’s plan that apply to all believers.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 teaches, “Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

These three activities—being joyful, praying, and giving thanks—are God’s will for all believers, regardless of circumstances. We can understand God’s will through His Word. God’s Word is perfect (without error), and we can discover God’s plan for our lives through our consistent and continuous (even repetitious) study of it. 2nd Timothy 3:16-17 says, “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

(2) We can better understand God’s plan for our lives by closely following Him.

***Romans 12:1-2* promises, “I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship. 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.”**

When we dedicate our lives to God and turn away from the principles of this world, we prepare our hearts to hear from God.

Note this: 1 Thessalonians 4:3-7 confirms the necessity of being a “living sacrifice” and gives more detail about God’s plan: “It is God’s will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; that each of you should learn to control his own body in a way that is holy and honorable, not in passionate lust like the heathen, who do not know God; and that in this matter no one should wrong his brother or take advantage of him. The Lord will punish men for all such sins, as we have already told you and warned you. For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.”

(3). We can discover God’s plan through prayer.

Colossians 4:12 notes that a believer named Epaphras was “always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured.”

The believers in the Colossian church needed to know and do the will of God. Guess What? Epaphras prayed for them.

Prayer changes things and people! We can grow in our understanding of God’s will through prayer. Also, we can pray for God to reveal His plan to others.

(4). Sometimes God reveals or confirms His plans for us through different means, i.e. personal circumstances, relationships, or even dreams (be wise in dealing with these areas). These areas are often more subjective, and we must carefully evaluate such signs by what God has clearly said in Scripture. Always get a confirmation from your heart. Your heart will guide you and lead you in any plan God has for you.

As we pray, study Scripture, and seek to live holy before the Lord, He will reveal His plan for us in His perfect time and in a way we can understand.

We can rest assured of God’s promise: “Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you” (James 4:8).

If you feel that you have passed the time where God can or will reveal His will for the rest of your life, then please think about this lesson again. God never gives up on us. He is there expecting us to cross the finish line knowing that we were part of GOD’S PERFECT PLAN!

Conclusion of this series (God’s Plans for Our Lives):

1 Thessalonians 4:1-2, “As for other matters, brothers and sisters, we instructed you as to how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more. ² For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.”