

Watch Your *Life*

Session 6: Discerning God's Will with Pastor Colin Smith

Message Outline

Three Ways We Talk about God's Will

1. God's Secret Will
2. God's Revealed Will
3. God's Discerned Will

Seven Tests of Discerning God's Will

1. Experience
2. Need
3. Opportunity
4. Circumstances
5. Counsel
6. Desire
7. Gifts

Discussion Questions

1. What are specific areas of your life in which you need to discern God's will? (It could be in ministerial gifting, a relationship, a job, where to live, etc.)
2. How would you rate your past discerning of God's will? What were your greatest challenges, and what provided the most clarity?
3. Pastor Colin shared three ways we talk about God's will. Why is it important to differentiate them?
4. Were any of the seven tests (Experience, Need, Opportunity, Circumstances, Counsel, Desire, and Gift) new to you? Did any encourage you or challenge you? Explain.
5. Examining our desires are one way, not the only way, we can discern God's will. How can we tell if our desires are sinful or not?
6. The New Testament includes gifts of serving, teaching, exhortation, giving, leading, showing mercy, faith, evangelism, pastor/teacher, and more. What gifts do you think God has given you? How can you use those gifts for God's glory?