

20. **WATCH THE RATIONAL MIND.** It is possible to use natural wisdom to rationalize. Proverbs 3:5 says, "Lean not to thine own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him."
21. **WITHSTAND FEAR.** "Perfect love drives out fear." 1 John 4:18. With God as a loving heavenly Father, His will is "the best thing that could happen to us." What to fear is being outside the security of His perfect will. Romans 12:2.
22. **WEAKNESS DOES NOT DISQUALIFY** Christians often resist God's will because they don't feel adequate for that to which God is calling them. But His commission carries the guarantee of His enabling. Philippians 4:13, 1 Corinthians 1:27-29. 12:7-30; 2 Corinthians 12:10
23. **WAITING IN COMPLETE PASSIVITY** is not Scriptural. Guidance won't just "arrive". Use the means given in a positive way. Psalm 32:9
24. **WALK BY FAITH.** Be prepared to step out in faith. If you know God has spoken, then the only course is to launch out into the deep, trusting Him implicitly. Luke 5:1-9

## KNOWING GOD'S WILL

1. **WITHDRAW from all known sin.** (Psalm 66:18) Confess it and seek God's will as a cleansed person. (1 John 1:9.)
2. **WILLINGNESS to submit to the Lord's direction** is a basic pre-requisite. Be committed. (Romans 12:1, 2)
3. **WANTING TO KNOW!** What is your heart's desire? Is the will of God your SUPREME concern? See John 4:34, Matthew 6:33
4. **WAITING ON GOD.** This means "keep the matter constantly before God in prayer" (Isaiah 40:31.)
5. **WHOLEHEARTED TRUST.** Proverbs 3:5, 6 says, "Trust in the Lord with ALL your heart." James says, "A double-minded man is unstable ..." IMPLICITLY TRUST God about this matter.
6. **WEAR CHRIST'S YOKE** See Matthew 11:29 Taking His YOKE means: (a) learning from close contact. (b) being steered in the right direction, (c) moving at the right pace
7. **WORD OF GOD.** The Holy Spirit will never lead you contrary to the truths of God's Word. (Psalm 119:11.) (Beware of isolating special verses and taking them as guidance, unless confirmed to you in other ways.)

8. **WEIGHING THE CIRCUMSTANCES.** Make a spiritually minded interpretation of events. Remember Satan acts to deter and hinder us from God's will. (1 Thessalonians 2:18; 1 Timothy 4:1)
9. **WISDOM OF COUNSELLORS.** Share your concern with spiritually-minded seniors whose opinion you value. Very often confirmation comes through their reaction or advice. (Proverbs 1:5, 12:15. 16:7)
10. **WAYS OF GUIDANCE FOR OTHERS.** Study the manner in which God has guided His servants both from Scripture, Church History and Missionary Biography, e.g. Acts 10
11. **WETTING THE FLEECE** When it is hard to distinguish between personal feelings and the Spirit's confirmation, ask God to do something objective outside yourself, as an indication of His will. See Judges 6:37-39 (Gideon's fleece)
12. **WRITE OUT A BALANCE SHEET.** It is good to sit down with a sheet of paper and actually list the points for and against taking a particular decision.
13. **WORK WITH A PRAYER PARTNER (OR GROUP)** If the issue is of long-term significance, it is an excellent idea to open up freely to someone who will stand with you in positive faith for God's mind to be revealed. (Matthew 18:20)
14. **WORK TO ESTABLISH SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLES.** Often specific guidance is not needed because the issue should be governed by a known spiritual principle. e.g. "obey those that have the rule over you." (Hebrews 13:17.) 'No soldier gets tangled up in worldly affairs' (2 Timothy 2:4.)
15. **WATCH FOR THE SPIRIT'S EQUIPMENT.** The Holy Spirit's gifts can also be an indication of the type of service God wants you to do. See Romans 12:6-10
16. **WITNESS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.** The Holy Spirit invariably CONFIRMS by an inner assurance what God is showing you in other ways. Acts 11:12; Colossians 3:15 "Let the peace of God be the umpire in your hearts." At the same time beware of a peace which is simply the absence of tension following a time of decision making
17. **WATCH THE "FLESH"!** Beware of decisions that line up with affluence and natural desires. Galatians 5:24
18. **BE AWARE OF COUNTERFEITS!** Satan has seducing (misleading) spirits. Often the good is the enemy of the best. Watch for deflection on to a less vital target. Acts 6:1-6; 1 Timothy 4:1
19. **WORLD CAN ALLURE!** The world is not so much a place as a system. Ensure that your decision is in no way influenced by love of position, security, promotion, career or family pressure. 1 John 2:15-17; Luke 14:26