



finding God's will

Where should I go to school?" "What should I major in? Making BIG life decisions can be extremely hard. We tend to overthink, second-guess and worry...A LOT. Read through the 6 sections below and discuss.

1. RECOGNIZE WHO GOD IS.

- Worthy to receive all glory and praise and created all things. (Revelation 4:11)
- Wisdom and power are His. He controls time. Giver of wisdom and knowledge. (Daniel 2:20-22)
- Forms light and darkness; prosperity disaster. Does all things. (Isaiah 45:6-7)

Just a thought...*If you have surrendered your life to Christ and accepted His gift of salvation, then you believe and serve a God who has created all things, controls all things and knows all things. Are you really going to doubt that the Creator of this universe isn't going to be able to guide you as you make ANY hard decision?*

2. DON'T OVER COMPLICATE GOD'S WILL.

- You are created for God's glory. (Isaiah 43:7)
We make it our goal to please Him. (2 Corinthians 5:9) Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart for the Lord (Colossians 3:23)

Just a thought...*If you believe that God's Word is true (2 Tim 3:16), believe that God is sovereign and trust Him with choosing a college and a major, then whether you end up at (insert any school) you cannot mess up His will for your life. He wants you to love Him, love His people, flee from sin, obey His commandments and thus glorify Him...if you are doing this then you will be following His will for your life wherever and whatever you end up doing.*

3. PRAY, PRAY, PRAY.

- If you lack wisdom, ask God for wisdom. (James 1:5)
- Show me the way I should go, for to you I entrust my life. (Psalm 143:8) Very early in the morning, Jesus got up, went to a solitary place and prayed. (Mark 1:35)

Just a thought...*there are 1,440 minutes in a day. 1% of your day is about 15 minutes. How often do we even give him 1% of our day? If where to go to school and what to major in or any question in life is really weighing on you...why not challenge yourself to spend 15 minutes praying? Feel like you don't have time? Set your alarm 15 minutes earlier. If you have a hard time wanting to wake up early...reread Mark 1:35.*

4. LISTEN TO WISE COUNSEL.

- Listen to advice; accept discipline; at the end you will be counted among the wise.(Proverbs 19:20)

Just a thought...*if you are going through this lesson right now you have at least one person in your life that cares about you and has the ability to give you wise counsel.*

5. WAIT WITH NOWORRY.

- Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him. (Psalm 37:7)
- Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. (1 Peter 5:7)
- He is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20)

“Worry implies that we don’t quite trust that God is big enough, powerful enough, or loving enough to take care of what is happening in our lives. Stress says that the things we are involved in are important enough to merit our impatience, our lack of grace toward others, or our tight grip of control. Basically, these two behaviors communicate that it’s ok to sin and not trust God because the stuff in my life is somehow exceptional. Both worry and stress reek of arrogance. –Francis Chan, “Crazy Love”

6. DWELL IN HIS WORD.

- God’s word is a lamp and a light for our path. (Psalm 119:105) God’s word is:
 - perfect, refreshing, trustworthy, right, radiant, pure, firm, everlasting, righteous. (Psalm 19:7-10)

Just a thought...If your time in the Word is lacking, most likely you are going to feel unsure, uneasy and stressed about your college decisions.

Discussion Questions

- Why is it so hard to trust God with big decisions?
- When thinking about post high school, what are the major factors driving your decision? (ex. Money? Friends? Education offerings? Location? Campus activities? Parents? Pressure?) What do you think it will take to have confidence in your final decision?
- There is a difference between trusting God, waiting patiently for His direction and lazily not doing a thing to plan for the future. Could you explain this difference? How often do you pray for your future? Daily? Weekly? Never? Why?
- *IF* God only knew how you felt from what you have told Him, would He realize how important this decision is to you? Do you spend more time talking about this decision with other people or with God?
- Who have you sought counsel from in making your decision? How has it helped or hindered?
- Are you prone to worry? Stress? Why?
- How can you reduce your worry/stress in this decision making process? Do you trust God?
Do you believe that God is sovereign?