

Mt. Lebanon Church

Adult Sunday School Lesson

3.26.2023

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you that he would have you to see through the study of God's word.

Submitting to the Fathers Will

Matthew 26: 36 – 50

Having a humble and submissive heart is a choice that we must all make. This means, that as believers, we daily must make the choice to yield ourselves to God, for the work that the Holy Spirit does within us, so that we might conform to the image of Christ. God uses situations in our life to bring us into the opportunities where we can yield to his will. These opportunities are accomplished by choosing to apply ourselves to the word of God, and to the promises that he has made unto us through his Son, Christ. From the moment that we believed in Christ, we were given all the abilities needed to mature spiritually, so that we might make the choice to learn through the study of Gods word, and then to apply that which we have learned to our life in Christ. This process will continue until Christ returns, or until the time that he sees fit to take us to be eternally with him. The requirement to yield unto God comes unto us because he is a loving Father, and he wants what is best for us. The blessings, and peace of mind that we gain from humbly surrendering and yielding unto him daily is his gift of grace unto us, and nothing worldly can compare unto it.

James 4: 15,....for that ye ought to say, if the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that....

We are to seek the will of God in all that we do, this is because God wants us to live with a constant commitment to follow after his will. Seeking Gods will must be the goal of all of all of our desires.

So, why do we often time deliberately disobey the will of God, which we know so well. Because of pride and self-righteousness, we believe that Gods will is something that we have the choice to accept or to reject, when in reality, as a believer, the will of God is not an option, it is an obligation. Since we are the children of God, and servants of his unchanging word, then we must become obedient to his will. Spiritual maturity means standing firm on the word of God, even through trials and tribulations. We must be what God wants us to be, do what God wants us to do, and speak as God wants us to speak. We must submit to the father's will.

Matthew 26: 36 – 41,....then cometh Jesus with them unto....Gethsemane, and saith....sit ye here, while I go and pray....he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee....he saith unto them....tarry ye here, and watch with me....he went....and fell on his face, and prayed....if it be possible, let this cup pass from me, nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt....he cometh unto his disciples, and findeth them asleep....could you not watch with me one hour....watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation, the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak....

Christ shows unto us by his example how to be submissive, surrendered, willing, and obedient, always prepared to do the will of the Father. Prayer is a God given ordinance against our sinful desires. Christ knows that as Christians, our spirit is willing to do that which is right and honorable in the sight of God, but it is our sinful nature, and the desires thereof that are weak. Those who depend upon God, abide in Christ, through the Holy Spirit, and with this are given the strength to overcome the world.

Our weaknesses are reminders of Gods grace. God knows each of us, he knows our strengths and our weaknesses. God created us to be in a perfect relationship with him, but the temptations that we face, and the choices that we make will hinder our relationship with God. Through his word, God warns us of impending (forthcoming) difficulties that we will face, in order to prepare us so that we might put our trust and faith in him so that we might find the strength to endure.

Luke 21: 36,....watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man....

God will test us, so as to prove that our faith is genuine. The times of our greatest testing should prove to be the result of our finest faith in God. Becoming spiritually asleep means becoming insensitive to our relationship with Christ and also insensitive to our spiritual responsibilities. As Christians, we become deceived when we are not watching that which is going on, which means that we have taken our eyes off of God and his will for our life. Gods will requires constant attention, we must continually be alert against deception, comparing to the word of God what we hear, making sure that it is according to his truth.

Matthew 26: 42 – 46,....he went away again the second time, and prayed....if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done....came and found them asleep again....went away....and prayed the third time....behold, the hour is at hand....the Son of Man is betrayed....rise....behold he is at hand that doth betray me....

The only way for us to be victorious is to live by the power of the Holy Spirit. To do this we must be patient and willing to do the Fathers will. God wants us to be persistent when making our request known unto him, and we are to be ready to accept his will and not our own no matter if the answer is yes, no, or wait. Once we have given ourselves to the will of God, we are now ready to apply ourselves to that which is necessary in order to carry out his will.

Are we committed to seeing Gods will accomplished, if so, then we are asking God to do that which he desires. This means that we are acknowledging Gods right as the sovereign God of the universe, master and ruler of all things. We must submit to Gods ways and his plans, and we must show our faith and our trust in him, because he knows what is best for us in our life.

Matthew 26: 47 – 50,....while he yet spake....Judas....came and with him a great multitude....Jesus said unto him, friend, wherefore art thou come?....

God always knows that which is in our hearts and in our minds, even though at times we may try to hide it from him. Therefore, we must rely upon the power of God, through the indwelling Holy Spirit, so that we may overcome our human weaknesses, and give ourselves as a servant of our salvation. Often time, even with the Holy Spirit living within us, our fallen nature craves selfishness, and stubbornly we desire to maintain a grasp on our own destiny. Christ chose to make sure that his will was exactly as the will of his heavenly Father, so that he might redeem us from our sinful, lost, fallen state. Therefore, it must be our desire to love God, and to trust in his will through even the most demanding situations in our life.

Psalm 143: 10,.... teach me to do thy will, for thou art my God, thy spirit is good, lead me into the land of uprightness....

Confessing the knowledge of Gods will in obedience to his word shows us that his grace is sufficient for all our circumstances, and he is faithful. We all need Gods guidance, and we all need the Holy Spirit to teach us and lead us into all truth. Standing on the promises of God's word gives unto us the strength to become ready and willing to admit to our weaknesses, denying our own self-righteous understanding, and trusting in the Lord with our whole being. As we acknowledge Christ in all things, he will teach us, and lead us into his perfect peace, then will we understand the meaning of submitting to the Fathers will.

Let us Pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

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