

# *Mt. Lebanon Church/ Big Isaac Community Church*

Teaching Ministry

3.22.2026

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. Below please find my sharable thoughts, so please allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you that he would have you to see through the study of God's word to share.

Our Willful Service to God

## **Luke 22: 39 - 46**

What does it mean to have a willful service unto God. First of all, let us understand the characteristics of our service unto God. It is voluntary, it is obedient, it is committed, it is devoted, and it is thankful. It focuses on a heart that is striving toward perfection in Christ, no matter where we are or what we are doing. It means daily, choosing to live a life according to his divine principles, without regret, and not seeing it as a forced duty. It means maintaining our faith regardless of situations or circumstances, or trials and tribulations that might come against us in our life. It is the power of God in our lives unto salvation, to make decisions that follow after the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit, no matter how hard they may seem, or even when we just do not feel like doing his will. So, no it does not always seem easy to make choices that follow after Gods will, even though we know that his way is the best way. Doing the will of God requires a deliberate action that is intentionally disciplined. Therefore, a weak-willed person will struggle when required to make tough decisions. Our motivation for a willful service lies within the strength of our desires. So, this means that we have two options available to us in life. We can choose to serve God, or we can choose to serve ourselves. Choosing to serve God requires a strong will; while serving ourselves requires no will at all, we just simply give in to our worldly, lustful desires. Therefore, even though our will is our own, it was given unto us as our own so that we might choose to make our will his will.

**Luke 6: 45 – 49**,....a good man out of the treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good, and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil, for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh....why call ye me, Lord, lord, and not do the things which I say....whosoever cometh....and heareth....and doeth....I will shew you to whom he is like....he is like a man which ....laid the foundation on a rock....and could not shake it, for it was founded on a rock....he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man....without a foundation....and the ruin of that house was great....

Mans willful actions are direct reflections of his inner character and spiritual condition, and this determines the quality of a person's life. Therefore, we are encouraged to evaluate the state of our spiritual being so that we might see the need for a continual inner transformation, which comes by faith, through our relationship with God, so that his goodness might naturally flow from within to without every day in our life. So, as believers, we should never consider ourselves to be without sin, but we must be realistic about who we allow to influence us in our life, considering the responsibility of our willful service unto God.

**Luke 22: 39 – 46**,....he came....and went....to the mount of Olives....his disciples also....he said....pray that ye enter not into temptation....he....kneeled down, and prayed, saying Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will. But thine, be done....there appeared an angel....strengthening him....he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground....he rose up....and....come to his disciples, he found them sleeping....he said....why sleep ye? Rise and pray. Lest ye enter into temptation....

As believers, Christ teaches us by example how to surrender our personal desires to the divine purpose of God. So, we see that true obedience is not just something that is our duty, but true obedience comes from having a close loving relationship with God. Now, even though Christ possessed no worldly inherited emotions, he gave unto us his knowledge, showing us, that even when we allow emotional pain and fear into our life, and we request relief, God will enable us to maintain our faith, by his power, and give unto us the assurance that all things are possible with him, even when we see no other way. So, like Christ, we should not seek to remove ourselves from our appointed responsibility, because we know that it is for his purpose that we were brought into the world.

**Ephesians 6: 6 – 7**,....as the servant of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart....with good will doing service, as to the Lord....

So, as believers, we are to serve with sincerity, and with a heart that is completely devoted to doing the will of God, for every work is a calling to serve Christ. So, this means that our efforts must be consistent, for we are not just going through the motions, looking for acknowledgement and praise from others, but with a cheerful, undivided heart we are working with a purpose, and a responsibility unto God. So, as believers, do we work to transform the everyday duties of our lives into actions that glorify and honor God. This means we must perform everything action with a positive, voluntary attitude, not grudgingly or of necessity, for it is a test of our willing devotion unto God, for we are no longer servants of men, but servants of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Colossians 3: 23,....**whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men....

The greater our faith, the stronger our spiritual maturity, the closer we are in our relationship with God, and our motivation shifts away from temporary worldly benefits to an outcome of where we seek after those things that have eternal value. As believers, we represent Christ to the world, therefore, people are watching our lives to see how we conduct ourselves in our spiritual life. So, we must properly apply the teachings of God's word to our life, as we perform and carry out every task, giving thanks to God and allowing our life in Christ to act as a witness for him.

**1 Corinthians 10: 31,....**whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God....

As believers, we set limitations on ourselves when we mix our righteous living with worldly activities, those things that are not pleasing unto God, for he desires our total, undivided devotion, and is displeased when we make compromises in our life.

**Lamentations 3: 40 – 41,....**let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the Lord....let us lift up our heart with our hands unto God in the heavens....

So, as believers, we learn to assess our actions against Gods standards, determining the significance of our condition according to the moral contents of his word. This promotes spiritual growth and strengthens our perseverance, aligning our lives with the will of God.

**Psalms 119: 105 – 106,....**thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path....I have sworn, and I will perform it, that I will keep thy righteous judgements....

As believers, when we accepted Gods free gift of grace, and we were sealed the indwelling Holy Spirit of promise, we verified that which we received with a commitment to live according to his divine principles, by our obedience, to the commandments and promises of his word, despite the temptations and challenges that will come against us in our life. This is our promise that we made, to remain loyal in our willful service unto him, rather than following after an easier pathway to rebellion. So, we depend upon Gods strength and power, which he has provided unto us through his spirit, to keep us, to guide us, to fulfill within us his grace, to help us to carry out his work, so that we might observe and obey his commandments, to adhere to and maintain his promises, so that we might faithfully proclaim the same as Christ in our life, nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.

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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