

## GOD'S THOUGHTS ARE NOT OUR THOUGHTS ISAIAH 55:8-9

### SERIES: *THE JOURNEY OF PURSUING GOD'S WILL*

<sup>17</sup> So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.  
***Ephesians 5:17 (NASB)***

<sup>17</sup> The world is passing away, and *also* its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever. ***1 John 2:17 (NASB)***

## 1. THE PURSUIT OF GOD'S WILL IS A JOURNEY

<sup>5</sup> Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding. <sup>6</sup> In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.  
***Proverbs 3:5-6 (NASB)***

<sup>8</sup> I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you. ***Psalms 32:8 (NIV)***

<sup>34</sup> So do not worry *or* be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will have worries *and* anxieties of its own. Sufficient for each day is its own trouble.  
***Matthew 6:34 (AMP)***

- **God's will for our lives is not so much about reaching some appointed destination in this life on earth as it is about the journey itself. It is not about our well thought out mission or calling as it is about what matters to Him in our lives.**

<sup>10</sup> "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!" ***Psalms 46:10 (ESV)***

## 2. GOD'S WILL IS A PROCESS

<sup>1</sup> After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." <sup>2</sup> He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." ***Genesis 22:1-2 (ESV)***

<sup>13</sup> Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah. <sup>14</sup> Now the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and a harmful spirit from the LORD tormented him. ***1 Samuel 16:13-14 (ESV)***

<sup>2</sup> When the LORD began to speak through Hosea, the LORD said to him, "Go, take to yourself an adulterous wife and children of unfaithfulness, because the land is guilty of the vilest adultery in departing from the LORD." ***Hosea 1:2 (NIV)***

<sup>23</sup> And he promised her with an oath, "Whatever you ask I will give you, up to half my kingdom." <sup>24</sup> She went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask for?" "The head of John the Baptist," she answered. <sup>25</sup> At once the girl hurried in to the king with the request: "I want you to give me right now the head of John the Baptist on a platter."  
***Mark 6:23-25 (NIV)***

<sup>8</sup> We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about the hardships we suffered in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life. <sup>9</sup> Indeed, in our hearts we felt the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead.  
***2 Corinthians 1:8-9 (NIV)***

- **There are some things in this life that are beyond our ability to understand. That is why the pursuit of God's Will is a journey.**

## 3. WHAT GOD'S WILL IS, AND IS NOT

- It is often easier for us to know God's will for others than it is for ourselves.

<sup>10</sup> "He does incredible miracles, too many to count. <sup>11</sup> He passes by, invisible; he moves along, but I don't see him go. <sup>12</sup> When he sends death to snatch a man away, who can stop him? Who dares to ask him, 'What are you doing?' <sup>13</sup> "And God does not abate his anger. The pride of man collapses before him. <sup>14</sup> And who am I that I should try to argue with Almighty God, or even reason with him?" ***Job 9:10-14 (TLB)***

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O LORD, you have searched me and known me! <sup>2</sup> You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. <sup>3</sup> You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. <sup>4</sup> Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether. ***Psalms 139:1-4 (ESV)***

<sup>6</sup> "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup> let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. <sup>8</sup> For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. <sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. ***Isaiah 55:6-9 (ESV)***

<sup>28</sup> Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ***Isaiah 40:28 (ESV)***