

# Everyday Faith

★ BOOK OF JAMES ★

August 14, 2016  
centerchurchsd.com

## Getting a Handle on God's Will

<sup>1</sup> What is causing the quarrels and fights among you? Don't they come from the evil desires at war within you? <sup>2</sup> You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous of what others have, but you can't get it, so you fight and wage war to take it away from them. Yet you don't have what you want because you don't ask God for it. <sup>3</sup> And even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure.

*James 4:1-3 (NLT)*

### GETTING A HANDLE ON GOD'S WILL:

1. Admit you could use **SOME HELP**.

<sup>6</sup> And he gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."<sup>7</sup> So humble yourselves before God...

*James 4:6-7 (NLT)*

<sup>8</sup> Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world... <sup>10</sup> Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor.

*James 4:8,10 (NLT)*

2. Believe the **BEST** about everyone you **MEET**.

#### THREE MOTIVATIONS WHY:

✓ Judging others is **NOT YOUR JOB**.

<sup>11</sup> Don't speak evil against each other, dear brothers and sisters. If you criticize and judge each other, then you are criticizing and judging God's law. But your job is to obey the law, not to judge whether it applies to you. <sup>12</sup> God alone, who gave the law, is the Judge. He alone has the power to save or to destroy. So what right do you have to judge your neighbor?

*James 4:11-12 (NLT)*

✓ When you judge others, you're **WRONG** most of the time.

<sup>5</sup> So don't get ahead of the Master and jump to conclusions with your judgments before all the evidence is in. When he comes, he will bring out in the open and place in evidence all kinds of things we never even dreamed of - inner motives and purposes and prayers. Only then will any one of us get to hear the "Well done!" of God.

*1 Corinthians 4:5 (MSG)*

✓ When you believe the best, the best **COMES BACK TO YOU**.

<sup>37</sup> "Don't pick on people, jump on their failures, criticize their faults - unless, of course, you want the same treatment. Don't condemn those who are down; that hardness can boomerang. Be easy on people; you'll find life a lot easier. <sup>38</sup> Give away your life; you'll find life given back, but not merely given back - given back with bonus and blessing. Giving, not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity."

*Luke 6:37-38 (MSG)*

3. **SEEK HIM** first everyday.

<sup>13</sup> Now listen to me, you that say, "Today or tomorrow we will travel to a certain city, where we will stay a year and go into business and make a lot of money." <sup>14</sup> You don't even know what your life tomorrow will be! You are like a puff of smoke, which appears for a moment and then disappears. <sup>15</sup> What you should say is this: "If the Lord is willing, we will live and do this or that."

*James 4:13-15 (GNT)*

#### The everyday faith question:

Will **GOD** be **HONORED** ?

<sup>31</sup> Don't ever worry and say, 'What are we going to eat?' or 'What are we going to drink?' or 'What are we going to wear?' <sup>32</sup> Everyone is concerned about these things, and your heavenly Father certainly knows you need all of them. <sup>33</sup> But first, be concerned about his kingdom and **what has his approval**. Then all these things will be provided for you.

*Matthew 6:31-33 (GW) emphasis added*

Bible  
Translations

We use multiple translations to help you gain a rich, well-rounded understanding of God's Word. And we look them up for you.

**NLT**  
New Living Translation

**MSG**  
The Message

**GNT**  
Good News Translation

**GW**  
God's Word

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