

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

Thank you so much for visiting our website! Here is an excerpt of my notes from Pastor A.J.'s sermon, "*Finding God's Will*."

Finding God's Will

John 15:7

If you remain in Me and My words remain in you [that is, if we are vitally united and My message lives in your heart], ask whatever you wish and it will be done for you.

How to get a prayer through

Do you find yourself struggling in prayer? Do you find that your prayers are not being answered? Is your prayer life like you going into a restaurant and ordering your favorite meal but instead of the waiter bringing what you ordered he brings you a bologna sandwich? Only after your meal is brought out do you realize they don't serve your favorite dish all they serve is cold cut sandwiches? If only you had read the menu, you would've known what you could order. If you have found that your prayer life is much like the restaurant example above, then it's time for you to begin to find, search out for yourself and begin to pray according to God's will. Then as the Scripture states above, you will be able to ask for whatever you wish. It's time for you to upgrade your prayers!

To read the full sermon notes, <u>click here</u>!

We pray that Pastor A.J.'s Message will bless you the way it blessed us! Please come back again next week for more from "LaKesha's Pen" with another inspiring message.

Yours in Christ, LaKesha Johnson-Lewis

Full Sermon:

Finding God's Will

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The New King James version states John 15:7 this way: "if you abide in Me and My words in you..." when you pray you want to begin praying in the Word of God because when you pray in the Word of God you are assured to receive the

answers from God. There are different types of prayers a person can pray. There is intercessory prayer, (praying on someone else's behalf) deliverance prayers and then there is petition prayers. There are many others but today I will be discussing petition prayers. This is you making a request to God. God wants you to speak His language when you pray. For example you don't show up to the bank requesting to borrow money for a business without having a business plan. Banks won't respond to your request without having the proper information, so then likewise when you talk to God you have to know His Word. Prayers are answered when you have the correct knowledge of God. You must know and understand what God's Word says about your situation. Jesus said in John 14:23 if you love Him you will keep His Word. You have to begin to be disciplined enough to believe God's Word. God is also telling us through unanswered prayers everything you want you don't need. God will not violate His Word to answer your prayers. If you have been praying for a bigger house if God knows that having this house you are praying for will interfere with His relationship with you; then guess what? You won't be getting a bigger house. If you are praying that God hurts or destroys your enemies and those who have hurt you; He won't because he tells us to pray for our enemies and to bless those who curse us. (Matthew 5:44) If you are asking God for someone else's spouse, you won't get it! His Word says what He has joined together let not man separate. (Mark 10:9) You must line your prayers up with God's Word.

It takes some PT & BT (Prayer Time & Bible Time)

In **James 5:16**, states the effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much or as the Amplified Bibles states: the heartfelt and persistent prayer of a righteous man (believer) can accomplish much [when put into action and made effective by God-it is dynamic and can have tremendous power]. In the scriptures that follow it gives an example of Elijah stating he was a human just like any of us who believe and when he prayed he received an astounding outcome. In your life have you ever had a time when you were sick or in pain? Only to find out once you went to the doctor you could have taken care of this issue in a fraction of the time. This is how many of us are living life. Doctor Jesus has all the answers to heal you physically and spiritually but you must be willing to come to Him to receive your healing, you must be willing to put in the time and effort to know Him and to get His Word and lifestyle on the inside of you. It's not only important for you to learn but it's vital to the generations that are to come.

Hebrews 1:3 The world was framed by God's Word

In Hebrews 1:3, we see that the Word of God is what created everything and when we pray in His Word creation must respond, not to our words but to His Words. When we use His Words it sets things in motion. Things will begin to be framed according to the Word of God. God wants to show us the proper way of doing things. He doesn't have to answer prayers you pray that according to your wants and desires. He longs for your desires to be transformed into His desires. What you start God is not obligated to finish. If He didn't begin a thing He has no obligation to finish it. Align your life to God's will!

Once you are operating in the correct prayer life, you become an overcomer (John 16:33). Now you have to take your thoughts on how to live and dig into God's Word to see if your beliefs matches His. When you begin to compare the things you have been taught in life with His Word you will discover lies and untruths, you will discover flaws and imperfections in your thinking. In order for us to pray according to His will you must know what His will is, Romans 12:2 states you have to renew your mind. This will help you recognize what's not working in your life and then you will begin to seek God's will. Then you will have access to begin to make changes in your life by praying in agreement with God's Word. You don't want to reason with God by giving Him a list of excuses on why you can't do what He is asking you to do. You don't want to continue to ask for things that He has already said no too because He may just give it to you to teach you a lesson. Israel kept asking for a king (see 1st Samuel) and God eventually granted their request but they paid for it in the end. The kings they requested ended with the nation being split and eventually they were carried off as slaves to another country.

The benefits of studying to know God's Word is innumerable. It teaches about whom God is, His plan of salvation, His will for our lives, it teaches about your role in the family, the role you play on your job, about your finances, how to receive

healing, Jesus' return, how to pray and on and on. It is vital to your success to know and study His Word for yourself. Some things in our lives can only be prayed out and it's important that you spend time praying out loud; faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God (**Romans 10:17**) When you speak it out loud it enters through your ears and into your heart.

Here at Living Water Christian Center we strive to teach the Word of God with simplicity; even though we serve a complex God. Let the Holy Spirit lead and guide you in your bible and prayer time and be willing to do the things you have learned by Him. Allow the Word of God to take you to the next level! Be blessed.