

## Determined

I have five wonderful children. When they were little, each one went through a stage where they wanted to please their Dad. They would watch to see what Daddy liked or asked questions and then they would go about doing those things for him. I loved watching them and many times they were very creative in how they went about it.

Each day we have choices where we can please Him or we can please ourselves.

Ephesians 5:10-11, calls us to determine which things please the Lord.

*“**Determine which** things please the Lord. Have nothing to do with the useless works that darkness produces. Instead, expose them for what they are”  
Ephesians 5:10-11 (GWV).*

I have to expound on the word “Determine” because it just seems wrong not to. And what better way than to look at various translations of the passage and don’t you dare skip over them (grin).

I want you to insert your name in the front of each translation and read them out loud. There is something about “speaking” God’s Word, and I believe as you do this, Daddy is going to be blessed. Pleasing God directly relates to our pursuit of Him. The exercise below is all about pleasing Him.

- NIV- (your name here) - **find out** what pleases the Lord.
- NLT- (your name here) - **Carefully determine** what pleases the Lord.
- ESV- (your name here) - **try to discern** what is pleasing to the Lord.
- NASB - (your name here)- **is trying to learn** what is pleasing to the Lord.
- KJB - (your name here)- **is Proving what** is acceptable unto the Lord.
- HCSB -(your name here)- **is discerning what** is pleasing to the Lord.
- ISB -(your name here) - **is Determine to do what** pleases the Lord,
- ABPE -(your name here)- **will Distinguish what** is pleasing before Our Lord.
- JB -(your name here)- **is approving of what** is well pleasing unto the Lord.
- KJ - (your name here) - **is-Proving what** is acceptable unto the Lord.
- DRB- (your name here) **is Proving what is** well pleasing to God:
- DBT- (your name here) is **proving what** is agreeable to the Lord;

Each of these translations show another word for “Determine.” The life that pleases God is one that yearns to know him better. It’s our choice and our choice alone. The Word is always a beacon of truth for our lives. Pleasing the Lord requires action on our part by not only discovering, but doing what pleases Him through His Word.

The Word is full of ways to guide us on any subject matter in life. Pleasing Him is totally within our realm of possibilities. The good news is it can be done, and walking it out is more than possible because God equips us for success.

It's totally doable because pleasing the Lord means doing His will. One who keeps on growing in knowledge of Him is continually seeking to know Him better.

Every decision that you make, every choice that you have in front of you is either about pleasing Him or not. I'd say that's pretty cut and dry don't you?

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