

SAYING YES TO GOD

There are times in our lives that we find ourselves not knowing which way to turn or what to do. Most of the time, we know what to do but we have so much to do we don't know what to do next. Even if we know what we ought to do in a particular situation, we don't always do what we know we should do. Often the problem in such cases is not in the "knowing to do" but in the "willingness to do."

How do we know what to do? As we were growing up, we were told by our parents what we were to do. As we become older, we know what the law of the land says about how we are to conduct ourselves. We observe what is acceptable in the community in which we live and adjust our behavior so that we are not too different from the norms. Additionally, we have access to the Word of God. All of us have discovered that some things our parent told just weren't so, we have seen bad laws enacted (and repealed in some cases), and we know that just because society accepts something that it is not necessarily right. The only sure and reliable way to know is through the Word of God.

As we study the Bible and read about people such as Noah, Abraham, or Moses we might get the idea that knowing God's will takes some kind of special revelation or visitation by angels. We can see how God did great things through the lives of such people and we may tend to wait until we have such a revelation as they had before we go about acting on the Word of God. We need to keep in mind that God has revealed His will to us through His word and that these "larger than life" examples of the Bible are to show us how to be faithful in our response to God's call in our lives. Many times it is harder to say "yes" to God or be faithful in the routine daily affairs than in the great deeds that some are called to. We cannot progress far in accomplishing God's will and ignore His promises. Neither can we claim God's promises and ignore His will.

Many times the thing that God calls us to do is so far beyond our capability that we dismiss the possibility of it happening and we walk away from the opportunity that God gives us. If you were 80 years old and thought that God wanted you to do something that seemed totally out of the question – like go to Africa and be a missionary, then you would likely dismiss the idea as being totally impractical. We should not be so quick to dismiss such things because God has called people to things that are less likely. When God reveals His will to us, He expects us to respond in faith and obedience. Whatever the circumstances and whatever the cost, God expects us to say "Yes" in faithful obedience to His Word. Whatever He is likely to ask you to do, it is probably no more than what He has asked of others.