

ALIGNING WITH THE WILL OF GOD #5

FEBRUARY 5, 2023

REVIEW:

- 1.) Be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth.
- 2.) Be filled with the Holy Ghost.
- 3.) Maintain a spirit-filled life.
- 4.) Be water baptized.
- 5.) Our sanctification.
- 6.) Financially support God's work.

CONTINUE:

- 7.) Follow Christ daily (**LK 9:23; MT. 16:24-27**).
 - A.) Deny himself: Of living independent of God. Lucifer and Adam chose to live independent of God and suffered the consequences.
 - B.) Take up his cross: Submit our will to God's (**MT. 26:38-39**). The battle is in the soul. It involves crucifying thoughts that challenge God's will (**IS. 14:12-14 HCSB**).
 - **2 COR. 10:3-5** The mind stands guard at the door of our heart. We decide what gets through. We either deny or give access to sinful thoughts. This is what taking up our cross daily looks like.
 - C.) Follow Me: This is transformation and changing direction. It means to allow Jesus to make us what He wants us to be.
 - **MT. 4:19** "I will make you _____".
 - **1 COR. 15:10** Saul (destroyer) became Paul (builder).
 - **GAL. 1:1** Paul became a God-made, not self-made apostle.

We all have a seed within that longs to germinate and reach full potential in God. We can ignore it or yield to it. It's our choice.

 - **ACTS 1:8** There's a connection between receiving power and becoming what God wants us to be. "You will be the next Pastor".
- 8.) Take our place in the body (**1 COR. 12:12-23 NLT**).
 - A.) We don't determine our place, position or gifts, God does. There are ministry gifts (**EPH 4:11**); manifestation gifts (**1 COR. 12:7-11**); and motivational gifts (**ROM. 12:3-9 NIV**).
 - These gifts are spiritual, not natural. They are received at salvation, and every believer is gifted (**1 PET. 4:10-11 KJV, NLT**).
 - B.) Paul lists seven motivational gifts: prophesying, serving, teaching, encouraging, giving, leading and mercy.
 - C.) Knowing our spiritual gift helps us to:
 - Know God's will.
 - Discover our spiritual job description.
 - Take our appropriate place in the body.
 - See ourselves as a conduit of God's grace.
 - Avoid over-commitment and burn out.
 - Appreciate what others are anointed to do.
 - Maintain the true purpose of the body of Christ (**2 PET. 3:9**).

Conclusion:

Every believer is called to follow Christ daily, discover his spiritual gifts and take his place in the body in order to fulfill the great commission.

