

3. Constant Study of Biblical Principles. We don't learn the Lord's will ordinarily by picking a vs. at random. But we cannot learn the Lord's will without learning the meaning of the Scriptural passages, to know the principles contained in the Scriptures, to know the ideas that He has presented there and then you will find that you ~~will~~ get in a situation where your emotions ^{would} lead you one direction or another, you will remember what you have studied in the Scripture that will give you the clear answer and show you what you should do. One of the greatest vs. on guidance is Ps. 32:8, "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way that thou shalt go, I will guide thee with mine eye." Be not as the horse or as the mule that have no understanding ~~of~~ whose mouth must be held in with bit or bridle." If God wants you at a certain place and it is very important in His will that you get there, He may treat you like a horse with a bit and a bridle and force you in that direction. And most of us in the course of our lives have experiences where God forces us in a certain way, but He doesn't want us to be that way. He wants us to be not such that He has to pull us around with a bit or bridle and force us this way or that but such that He can guide us with His eye~~s~~ because we have our minds so filled with the understanding of the scriptural principles that we know his will as situations arise. We know the principles and we know how to apply them in situations as they come up. As Paul said in Col. 1:9, (reading) ". . . be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding." We get filled with the knowledge of His will from careful study of the Word and as situations arise we apply the principles of the Word to these situations.

4. Careful examination of all relevant factors. God wants us to be thinking active beings who are endeavoring to serve him and to accomplish his will and who therefore study all the factors involved in each situation. Oh so often someone comes to me and ask me, What shall I do in this situation? I don't know, should I go here or here? Well, I say, What are the reasons for going here? What are the reasons for going here? Well I say, Which will honor the Lord better? The reasons you have given for this or for that? O, he says, the reasons for that. Well then I say, Which should you do? He says The reasons for that. That is to say, In three cases out of four, When somebody asks my advice on something, he already knows the answer. But the ans. is hidden from him because of some emotional involvement.