

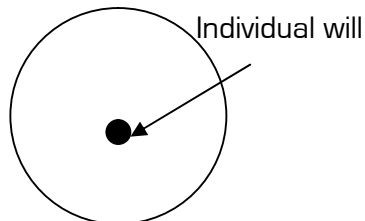
**Introduction**

Final message in our Finding God's will series:

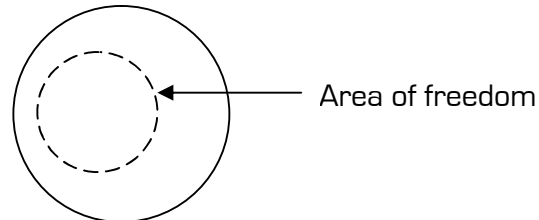
To quickly review

**Traditional view**

(Find the dot)

**Biblical View**

(Freedom to choose)



But how do we are we able to choose the right option within are area of freedom?

Your answer is found in a camp fire

Illustration: Fire logs together and alone die out although nothing about the log changed.

**It is not good for man to be alone**

READ Psalm 1

What does it mean to be blessed?

- Like a tree by a stream - drinks in nourishment
- Bears fruit
- Continues on
- Withstand judgment and dwell in the congregation of the righteous

What makes us blessed?

- **Associations**
- Delight in the law of the Lord
- One who mediates on the Word of God

How do we make wise choices of the moral options?

**It is not good for man to be alone****One who walks in the counsel of the righteous (right living horizontally)**

Proverbs 15:22 Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.

Illustration of the church: we need the gifts and insights of the body and authority to

To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good

1 Corinthians 12:14-20

Proverbs 27:17 Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

- Counsel is different than finding approval

- Who is a wise counselor?

- Find someone who loves you enough to be honest
- Find someone who is wise and knowledgeable
- Find someone who is unbiased by open to God's diversity
- Remember the decision making process is intended by God to shape and strengthen you.

**Conclusion**

This is the blessing given to those who trust their lives and eternity to Jesus Christ.

They can begin to experience righteousness in daily decision making

## **PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING: THE WAY OF WISDOM**

1. Where God commands we must obey
2. Where there is no command, God gives us freedom (and responsibility) to choose
3. Where there is no command, God gives us wisdom to choose
4. When we have chosen what is moral and wise, we must trust the sovereign God to work all the details together for good

## **WISDOM FOR DECISION MAKING**

1. **Old Testament** teaches wise decision making by its wisdom books and examples of wise men
2. **Jesus** commands his disciples to be wise
3. The **Apostles** modeled wisdom in their decision making
4. The **Apostles** commanded believers to use wisdom in decision making
5. God has promised wisdom through the **Bible, prayer, counselors, research and experience.**

## **APPROACH TO FINDING GOD'S WILL**

1. Ask God for wisdom through **prayer** (James 1:5-6)
2. Wisdom is found in **Scripture** (Psalm 119)
3. Wisdom is found in **outside research**
4. Wise **counselors** are a source of wisdom
5. **Life** itself teaches us wisdom
6. God sometimes gives wisdom by direct revelation, although not promised to believers and it is an exception not the norm.

