

God just tell me

Week 4: How Not To Seek God's Will

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

There are four crucial components for a group to maintain its health: Word, prayer, relationships, and reaching out. In this guide, you will study the biblical passage in three steps: observation, interpretation, and application. As the group leader, you are free to use any part of this guide that can assist you in achieving this goal.

CONNECT

- Do you make decisions more with your head or your heart?
- Have you done anything lately that scared you? What was it?
- What are you most excited to do as the weather warms up?

INTRODUCTION

In this final week of our series "God Just Tell Me," we're examining some of the ways we definitely won't discover God's will - habits like overspiritualizing, overanalyzing, and assuming that "hard" means "wrong." This week we'll be looking at stories in Scripture where people were tempted to do each of these things, and how God calls us to seek him instead.

OBSERVATIONS & INTERPRETATION

Read: Matthew 12:38-42

Discuss:

- What do the Pharisees ask from Jesus?
- How does Jesus respond? Try to restate in your own words.
- According to Jesus, what is the true sign the Pharisees need to see?

Read: 1 Kings 19:1-18

Discuss:

- Prior to this passage, Elijah sees God show up in power on Mt Carmel. Recap the story in 1 Kings 18:20-40 quickly to give context.
- What is Elijah feeling and thinking in this passage? Point to specific verses to back up your answers.
- How does God respond to Elijah throughout the passage? What are some of the things God provides him with?
- Elijah's situation is clearly hard. Does that mean he's operating outside of God's will?

APPLICATION

- In Matthew 12, the Pharisees ask Jesus for a sign, and he responds that He himself is the sign. Where in your life are you tempted to ask God for a "sign," and is it possible that God is giving you that sign in Jesus?
- As we see in Elijah's story, experiencing hardship doesn't mean we aren't walking in God's will. What feels hard in your life right now? Do you believe you are still walking in God's will in that area?
- As we've gone through this series about seeking God's will, is there a particular area of your life that keeps coming to mind? How do you view seeking God's will differently now than you did four weeks ago?

PRAYER

- Break into small groups of 2-3 people. Invite people to repent of any sin this conversation has shown them and re-affirm their trust in God's good plans for them.