HOW TO KNOW GOD'S WILL

ICEBREAKER: What's the worst-tasting thing you've ever eaten?

OVERVIEW: Life is filled with big decisions: Whom should I marry? Where should I go to college, and what should I major in? What do I want to do for a living? Should I stay or should I go? How do I know which church to join? And each decision has huge consequences. How can we know God's will for our lives? In this discussion we will take Sunday's sermon deeper and apply it to our lives.

- 1. Read Psalm 37:4. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
- 2. Each of the following verses teaches important principles about knowing God's will. Look up each passage and jot down any principles you discover.
 - a. Psalm 25:8-12
 - b. Psalm 119:105
 - c. Proverbs 3:5-6
 - d. Romans 12:1-2
- 3. The verses below clearly lay out key aspects of God's will for you. Read each passage and write down what you need to do in response to follow God's will.
 - a. Ephesians 5:17-18
 - b. 1 Thessalonians 4:3
 - c. 1 Thessalonians 5:18
 - d. 1 Timothy 2:3-6

- 4. What are some incorrect or inadequate ways to make decisions and figure out God's will?
- 5. The message of the sermon was this: <u>If you develop and intimate love rela-</u><u>tionship with God, then He will show you which path to take by making it the</u><u>path you most desire</u>. It may be hard to know if you are taking delight in the Lord. One way to know is that if you are taking delight in the Lord, He will take delight in you. What changes do you need to make in your life to better please the Lord?
- 6. Another way to tell if you are taking delight in the Lord is that your joy flows from your relationship with God, and you aren't dependent upon the world for happiness. How much is your joy, peace and contentment affected by your circumstances, and what does that say about the current state of your relationship with God?
- 7. A third way to tell if you are taking delight in the Lord is that you are joyful in God and don't need to dabble in sin for happiness. How can a person grow to this level of spiritual depth so that sin becomes less and less tempting?
- 8. According to Psalm 37:4, the key to knowing God's will is an intimate love relationship with God. What steps can you personally take to deepen your relationship with God?
- 9. In the sermon it was said that you need to seek oneness with your spouse when making decisions. Do you agree or disagree? Explain.

The Last Word: Do what it takes to develop and maintain an intimate love relationship with God each and every day so that you can clearly discern His will on decision day.

