

# *Decision Making & Will of God*

Why did you choose this seminar?

## **Why decision-making is hard**

### False Views of Reality

- Destiny in
- Destiny in

### False View of God

- God the
- God the
- God of

### Added Pressures

- ♣ Problem of Choice
- ♣ Problem of Past Decisions

Your pressures

## **Two Gardens of Decision**

- ♣ Eden
  - Genesis 2:15-20

- Genesis 1:28-30
- Two things not allowed
  - 
  -

### ♣ Fall

- 
- 
- 

### ♣ Gethsemane

- Matthew 26:36-44
- Jesus the pattern of our redeemed humanity

## Two Added expectations

- ♣ Seeking ultimate fulfilment
- ♣ Avoiding suffering

## What is the Will of God?

- ♣ Ephesians 1:9-11
  - v. 9
  - v. 11

*“Does God have a secret will of direction that he expects us to figure out before we do anything? And the answer is no. Yes, God has a specific plan for our lives. And yes, we can be assured that He works things for our good in Christ Jesus. And yes, looking back we will often be able to trace God’s hand in bringing us to where we are. But while we are free to ask God for wisdom, He does not burden us with the task of divining His will of direction for our lives ahead of time”*

Kevin De Young , *Just Do Something*, p.24

What do these passages tell us about the will of God?

- ◆ Acts 20:27
- ◆ Ephesians 6:6
- ◆ Colossians 4:12
- ◆ Romans 12:1-2
- ◆ Colossians 1:9
- ◆ 1 Thessalonians 4:2-4, 5:16-18
- ◆ Ephesians 5:15-20
- ◆ 1 Peter 2:15, 4:19 (5:10)
- ◆ Hebrews 13:20-21

Practical steps:

- ♣ What’s the decision you need to make?

- What kind of decision is it?
  - Decision of ethics
  - Decision of preference
  - Decision of wisdom
- ♣ What are the options?
  - What are the *real* options?!
- ♣ What are the boundaries of this decision?
- ♣ How can I live out God's will already before I make the decision?
- ♣ In what areas do I need to submit to the Lordship of Christ in this decision?
- ♣ Make a decision!

## Examples

What did these characters assume about God? About the future?

About the decision they made?

♣ Daniel 3:16-18

♣ Esther 4:12-16

At the end of it all....

