

BECKY COMBEE MINISTRIES, INC.

Access To God's Plan

I am constantly amazed by the leadership of the Holy Spirit in our lives. He brings us the mind of the Lord – the wisdom of heaven – so that we can be successful. He pours God's will into our hearts so that we can prosper.

Our commitment to God's will is of utmost importance! We are absolutely convinced that God's way is **BEST**, especially if we have ever misunderstood God's plan or strayed from His direction. Then our personal experience proves that God's way is **BETTER**. It is "exceedingly abundantly above" our own idea. We are never again willing to deviate from His will.

The first place that we can access the plan of God is in His Word. Many questions are answered there. For instance, when relationships are tense, love must dominate our behavior. In these situations, the Word of our Living God directs us to be patience, kind and unselfish. It forbids revenge, encouraging us to overcome evil with good.¹

Jesus said, "Do to others what you want them to do to you." If we do not want to be criticized and condemned, we should not criticize or condemn. We want a listening ear not a loud ungodly response. The Scriptures teach that a soft answer turns away wrath. A verbal upheaval will not fulfill this command. We may say to ourselves, "I could just pitch a fit." But bitter angry words abandon God's holy principle. His Word instructs us to "refrain [our] tongue from evil."

Until recently, I did not understand the Scriptural word "railing." Although I had studied this word many times, I just couldn't wrap my heart and soul around it - that is, until recently. What happened? I was "railed on." Oh, how I hated it. Yet I knew what the Word

of God said to do. It declares, "Don't be hateful and insult people just because they are hateful and insult you. Instead, treat everyone with kindness." Now I have a choice. I can honor the Word of God, paving the pathway of success, or I can yield to revenge and be led into error. If I choose the Word of God, I will prosper.

Both the Word of God and the Spirit of God declare God's will. When I listen to God's Spirit, I know what God is saying to me. I am not ignorant of His desire. Years ago, Wayne



and I ordered a new sofa. The night that we purchased it, I could not sleep. God was dealing with me about the sofa. Briefly I considered cancelling the order, but instead I yielded to reason because we had enough money to pay for the sofa. What a mistake! When the sofa arrived the money was gone.

The Holy Spirit deals with us in many ways. Often He simply reminds us of God's Word. We then choose to obey the testimony of the Scriptures that He brings to us. Sometimes, however, the Holy Spirit endorses and confirms God's will by an inner witness. The apostle Paul records, "The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit." It seems that beyond our mind and intellectual capacity, our spirit

knows God's will. Without a list of pros and cons or profound deductive reasoning, our spirit sanctions a particular directive. It functions like the conductor of a train, giving divine leadership. When we follow, we stay on track.

Our spirit also may speak to us in a very quiet voice that we call conscience. When we received Jesus as our Savior and Lord, we were born again. Our spirit was made new and we began to mature. As our spirit grows strong in the Lord, it recognizes God's will. Then, it can speak to us, sharing God's mind.

Additionally, God communicates His plan to us through the voice of the Holy Spirit. The voice of the Holy Spirit sounds audible as if it comes to our ears from the world around us, yet it is in our spirit. It is bigger than the voice of our own spirit. In Acts 10:19-20, the Holy Spirit spoke to the apostle Peter directing him to travel to the house of Cornelius. When Peter obeyed the Spirit's command and shared the gospel message, Cornelius, his family, and his friends were born again.

By the witness of our spirit, the spirit's quiet voice, or the more audible voice of the Holy Spirit, God reveals His mind. He directs us through visions, dreams and angelic visitations. In these ways, He enables us to know His will and fulfill His plan. When we hear and obey, we live victoriously. We accomplish His will, introducing others to our great and wonderful Father. Truly, we are blessed! Thank you, Father, for revealing your will!