



# Becky Combee Ministries, Inc.

## *The Plan of God*

I am always saddened when conscientious Christians, certain that they have followed the plan of God, find themselves in the throes of great loss. Many times, I have talked to them and found that their desire was to obey God. They prayed diligently to determine His will and yet, in the end, success evaded them!

My first concern is always did God really direct them. I've heard the words, "The Lord said to me," when it seemed unlikely that it was a word from God. Yet, I cannot tell them, "You didn't hear from God," unless their plan contradicts His Word. It goes without saying that God never leads us toward adultery, theft, or drunkenness. The Word of God forbids it! Neither will He sanction bitterness, hatred, jealous or revenge. He will not countermand His Word.

It is always the will of God that we live by the principles of love. We can never breach God's great royal law and expect to prosper. In fact, according to Galatians 5:6, our faith is ineffective and inoperative when love does not guide our actions. Our faith simply cannot "move mountains" if love is compromised.

But we can expect faith to lead us to victory.

Our Lord Jesus testified that, "All things are possible to him that believeth."<sup>1</sup> He also said that our desires would be fulfilled if we believed that we received when we prayed.<sup>2</sup> These are glorious promises! However, they are dependent on God's law of love.

In God's kingdom, love is the foundation of every directive from heaven. You simply cannot build a house, especially God's house, without constructing a proper foundation. Years ago, Wayne and I were watching television when a team of professionals moved a very old log cabin to a new foundation. Over the years, the original foundation had deteriorated until it had to be replaced. The builder could not remodel and update the cabin until it was secure on the new foundation. In this same manner, without love, our foundation is weakened and will not support success.

## *Led of the Spirit*

If there is no breach in the law of love, the questions become, "Did I hear from God? Was I led by the Spirit of God?" After one person shared their God-given plan with me, I was seriously concerned because it put them in a dangerous place. Later, I found out that their spouse was also perplexed by their plan and asked them not to proceed. Certainly, we must be sure that we have "the mind of the Lord"

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in everything we do.<sup>3</sup>

If I am unclear about God's plan, it is often best to postpone it and spend more time in prayer before taking the first step. As I pray, I know that God will work in me "to will and do of His good pleasure."<sup>4</sup> The Holy Ghost will clarify God's will and "put the brakes" on any misunderstanding and confusion. I believe in Holy Ghost "stop signs."

I also recognize the bright green traffic light that illuminates our spirit and says, "Go ahead." This "go ahead" signal does not depend on our intellectual prowess, financial ability, or superior



talent. It is not confirmed by "goosebumps" or other emotional impulses. God has spoken and we simply hear and obey.

When God spoke to Abraham to leave his home in Ur, he obeyed. Genesis 12:4 records, "Abram departed, as the Lord had spoken unto him." In other instances, Abraham's obedience is noted with the words, "as God had said unto him," and, "as God had commanded him."<sup>5</sup> After the sacrifice of the ram in place of his son Isaac, the Word of God says because Abraham had obeyed God's voice, all nations would be blessed.<sup>6</sup> Oh, how important it is to hear and obey!

Another great example of obedience to God's command is found in the life of Elijah. It is written of him, "So he went and did according unto the word of

the Lord."<sup>7</sup> Later, when the Lord said, "Arise, get thee to Zarephath," the Word of God declares, "So he arose and went."<sup>8</sup> Through his obedience, a widow and her son were continually fed during a famine.

Neither of these great men of God was led physically or emotionally by their own plan. When God spoke to them, they relinquished their idea and obeyed Him. In dealing with people, this is paramount. We want everyone to recognize God's leadership in their lives and to obey Him. We must obey Him even when our mind loudly declares, "That will not work." Too often, reason speaks saying, "What an impossible, ridiculous plan." In spite of this, we follow God. He is our ability.

### *Don't Quit*

Another question worthy of note is, "Did I quit too soon?" It is easy to become discouraged and give up. But the Scripture encourages us saying, "Having done all, to stand."<sup>8</sup> It also counsels us to, "Hold unswervingly to the hope we profess."<sup>9</sup> Therefore, we refuse to be talked out of the will of God.

Yet, when the plan of God is not quickly effective, we often decide we didn't really hear from God. In these moments, it helps to remember the day God dealt with us about His will. Then, we remind ourselves that Satan is a thief and he seeks to destroy the plan and purpose of God. We must not yield to his pressure. We know God is for us and He has spoken.

The truth is "stuff happens." The path is not always smooth, but obstacles and dilemmas do not prove that you missed God. Wait patiently on the Lord. Hang in there! The Word of God promises that, "He who has begun a good work in you will complete it."<sup>10</sup> So, boldly say, "The Lord is my helper."<sup>11</sup> He leads me and makes His plan complete." What a wonderful Father! What a glorious Lord! What blessed leadership from His Spirit! He is more than enough! AMEN!

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<sup>1</sup>Mk 9:23 <sup>2</sup>Mk 11:24 <sup>3</sup>1Co 2:16 <sup>4</sup>Php 2:13 <sup>5</sup>Ge 17:23;Ge 21:4 <sup>6</sup>Ge 22:18 <sup>7</sup>1Ki 17:5 <sup>8</sup>1Ki 17:10 <sup>8</sup>Eph 6:13 <sup>9</sup>Heb 10:23 NIV <sup>10</sup>Php 1:6 NKJ <sup>11</sup>Heb 13:6

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