

Episode 99

While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Holy Spirit said to him, "Simon, three men are looking for you. So get up and go downstairs. Do not hesitate to go with them, for I have sent them."

- Acts 10.19-20

If you haven't noticed yet, there is a recurring theme in the books of Acts, one that began in the life of Jesus, was handed to his disciples, and now fills every page of this book. The theme is this: By the power of the Holy Spirit, the people of God are constantly listening for the leading of God, and then follow God to where, how, and to whom He wants them to share the Gospel.

Realising this, I was reminded of one of my all-time favourite books by Henry Blackaby called "Experiencing God". There's a chapter or two in the book where he specifically deals with a very trendy question, namely "what is God's will for my life?" His answer to this pressing question has helped lift the weight off this seemingly impossible inquiry, and empower many who have wrestled with this same question to find clarity and freedom in determining their purpose - God's will for their life.

Henry begins by pointing out that we are actually asking the wrong question, and therefore the result is that we get the wrong answer. He says we shouldn't ask "What is God's will for my life?" but rather, we should ask "What is God's will?"

The point he is trying to make is that we are living in such a self-centred and self-obsessed world that we are most often only ever aware of God's activity as it pertains to me, myself, and I. Therefore, we have a very western, self-saturated understanding of the heart of God, and completely miss out on the far weightier picture of what God is busy with in our midst.

So, he simply suggests, as we see in Acts, that we take a step back from the unholy trinity of me, myself, and I, and begin to invest time and prayer into discovering what God is purposing to accomplish where we are, whether at work, in our families or community. In other words, what is God purposing to accomplish in the life of your boss, a new department you've been asked to lead, a young couple in lifegroup, the gardener, or your child's teacher? Then we step in and ask "How can I help?"

The answer, he says, is God's will for your life.

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