



Discerning God's Will

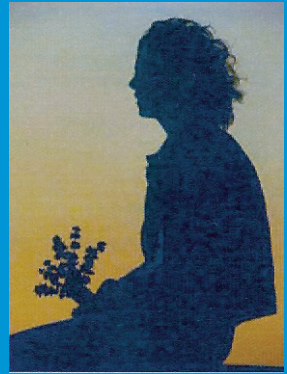
May I do what is truly your holy will Lord.

Most High, Glorious God,
Cast your light into the
darkness of my heart.
Give me,
right faith, firm hope,
perfect charity,
and profound humility,
with wisdom and perception,
Lord,
so that I may do what is truly
your will. AMEN

St. Francis of Assisi

Dearest Lord,
teach me to be generous;
Teach me to serve You as You
deserve;
To give and not to count the cost ,
To fight and not to heed the
wounds,
To toil and not to seek for rest,
To labor and not to ask for reward
Save that of knowing that
I am doing Your Will.

St. Ignatius of Loyola



How to Discern My Vocation

Prayer Time is essential: need to learn to listen to God in your thoughts and feelings

Meditate on Scripture

Recollection – time of silence of the heart (waiting & listening to the Holy Spirit)

Ask yourself: “Is my mind already made up?” or “I am willing to listen to what God wants for me.”

Pray for Holy Indifference: Freedom of the Spirit (freedom to be able to choose what God wants, not just what I want.)

Readiness to Seek Counsel: Remember that God helps us through other people. Seek advice of a learned, experienced person who loves the Lord.

State the Question Clearly: (Is there a hidden reason for asking what you want? Example: Do I want to go on to school? or I just want to live on my own after high school.)

List the pros and cons: (pros for priesthood/religious life, and the cons for priesthood/religious life)

Which are you drawn to: pros or cons (state your reasons – are your reasons “For the Greater Honor or Glory of God? or Selfish reasons?)

Bring your tentative decision to prayer. Ask God for confirmation or

Scriptures to Pray With

Ephesians 5:10 “Try to discover what the Lord wants of you ...”

Psalms 46:10 “Be still and know that I am God.”

Sirach 37:15 “Most important of all, pray to God to set your feet in the path of truth.”

Isaiah 50:4c “Morning after morning, he opens my ear that I may hear.”

Isaiah 52:7 “How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings glad tidings. Announcing peace, bearing good news, announcing salvation, and saying to Zion, ‘Your God is King!’”

Isaiah 58:11 “The Lord will always guide you, giving you relief in desert places. he will give strength to your bones and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never run dry.”

Psalms 134:1-3 “Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord who stand in the house of the Lord through the long hours of night. Lift up your hand toward the sanctuary, and bless the Lord. May the Lord who made heaven and earth bless you from Zion.”

Psalms 116:1 “I love the Lord, who listened to my voice in supplication.”

Psalms 139 (whole psalm) The Lord knows me through and through

Sirach 3:18 “Humble yourself the more, the greater you are, and you will find favor with God.”

1 Kings 3:5b “God said [to Solomon], ‘Ask something of me and I will give it to you.’”

Luke 18:41 [Jesus to the blind man] “What do you want me to do for you?”

Philippians 1:27 “Conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ, ...”

Hebrews 10:7,9 “Behold, I come to do your will, O God.”

Religious Orders

<https://fsc-calledtobe.org>

<http://www.pathsoflove.com/religious-communities.html>

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Don't have time for prayer?

Look at your priorities. Ask yourself what is making you the person God made you to be.

- 1) What do I need to stop doing?
- 2) What do I need to start doing?
- 3) What do I need to continue doing?

Five Ways to Find God in the Ordinary

1. Stop in the chapel for 5 minutes at the beginning or end of your lunch hour.
2. Say a Hail Mary as you sit and prepare for your next class period.
3. Try attending one daily Mass a week.
4. Go out of your way every day to be Christ to one other person—even when it's not noticed.
5. Repeat a prayer throughout the day - "Jesus I trust in You."
"Lord, help me to be a better person"

The Abandonment Prayer

of Blessed Charles de Foucauld

Father, I abandon myself into your hands; do with me what you will.

Whatever you may do, I thank you: I am ready for all, I accept all.

Let only your will be done in me, and in all your creatures.

I wish no more than this, O Lord.

Into your hands I commend my soul;

I offer it to you with all the love of my heart,

for I love you, Lord, and so need to give myself,

to surrender myself into your hands, without reserve, and with
boundless confidence,

for you are my Father.

Amen