

Digging Deeper Sermon Study

1. **Read Philippians 3:17, 1 Peter 5:2-3, 1 Timothy 4:12, Hebrews 11:4-12, 12:1-2.** One of the ways God leads us to a vocation is by drawing us to people we admire and giving us a desire to imitate their life. Is there someone you admire in your line of work? Has someone you admire influenced your vocation? Are there people in church who are an encouragement to you because you admire their marriage, family or character. Who is the ultimate model for us to follow?
2. **Read Acts 16:6-10.** Sometimes God changes the direction of our vocation in ways we don't expect. We are not told exactly how the Spirit of Jesus redirected Paul's plans from Asia to Macedonia, but we know this change of plans brought the good news of Jesus to Europe, from which we are all spiritual descendants. How has God changed your vocation in a way you didn't expect? What good things has he done through those unexpected changes? How does this help you face unexpected career changes in your future?
3. The message talked about knowing the difference between the essential and the desirable qualities of a spouse. Make a list of your essential and your desirable qualities in a spouse. Share them in the group. What insights did you learn from listening to others, especially from the opposite sex?
4. **Read 1 Corinthians 7:39, 1 Corinthians 7:10-16, Mark 10:1-12.** It is often said there is only one person in the world for each of us to marry, and we need to find them. Is there more than one person in the world we can marry? If we can marry more than one person, what is wrong with wanting a divorce because we think we married the wrong person?
5. **Read 1 Corinthians 7:9, 1 Corinthians 7:1-5, 1 Corinthians 7:36-38.** Many are marrying at an older age. What are the problems with delayed marriage? Why are young people—especially young men, delaying the finding and marrying a spouse? How would you encourage the average Christian young man or woman to change their thinking about relationships so they are more biblical?

DISCOVERING GOD'S WILL

What Is God's Will For My Work And Wedding?

May 6, 2018

1. How can I discover God's will for my work?

1. Remember that God often reveals our vocation over time.

2. God plans to use my gifts and talents.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 (ESV)

3. Pursue work that aligns with my motivation.

4. Consider the world's needs, not just my desires.

2. How do I discover God's will for a specific job?

1. The job should provide for my family.

But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. 1 Timothy 5:8 (ESV)

2. Consider the complications that come with the job.

3. I need to pray and seek council before making the final decision.

3. How can I discover God's will for my wedding?

1. Decide if I want to get married.

To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single, as I am. But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion. 1 Corinthians 7:8–9 (ESV)

2. Pursue marriage like I am finding a job.

3. Determine to only date and marry a growing Christian.

Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? 2 Corinthians 6:14 (ESV)

4. Know the difference between essential and desirable qualities.

5. Focus on being the right person, more than finding the right person.

6. Remember that marriage is for friendship.

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." Genesis 2:18 (ESV)

His mouth is most sweet, and he is altogether desirable. This is my beloved and this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem. Song of Solomon 5:16 (ESV)

7. The right future spouse will cause me to mature.

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. Ephesians 5:25–28 (ESV)

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. Ephesians 5:22 (ESV)

8. Be open to receive counsel about your relationship.