



Life Group Work Sheet

John 21:1-25 - Built for Others

September 8, 2013

In John 21:15-25, Jesus forgives Peter and calls him to ministry, and in doing this, Jesus reveals a little bit of God's will for Peter's life. God's will for our lives is a question that many wrestle with today. The following attempt to determine God's will for his people and how we can apply this will in our everyday lives.

Part 1 - Life to Text

1. Have you ever wondered what the will of God for your life is? Share a story of how you discovered God's will and how you moved forward with this realization.

Part 2 - In the Text

2. Read John 21:15-25. If you could sum up God's will for both Peter and John in one sentence, what would it be?
 - a. If you could sum up God's will for your life in one sentence, what would it be? What does your answer look like in day-to-day living?
 - b. Is this the same or different than God's will for Peter and John? How is it similar or different? Why is it similar or different?

3. Read 1 Thes. 4:3-8; 5:16-18. What do these texts tell us about God's will for our lives? How does this conclusion relate to that from John 21 above?
4. When we are not focused on God's will for our lives but are instead looking at others, we can become consumed with God's will for others, much like Peter in John 21. This preoccupation can lead to jealousy and bitterness. How can we cultivate contentment each day with God's plan for us?

Part 3 - Text to Life

5. Based off your conclusions from John 21 and 1 Thes. 4-5, how would you respond in the following situations?
 - a. A young Christian asks you what it means to follow God's will and how he can discover God's will for his life.
 - b. Your daughter is trying to pick out a college for next year and wants to honor God in her decision. What counsel do you give?
 - c. A close friend of yours is a faithful Christian and successful businessman. After years in the business world, he desires to enter full-time ministry, and asks you for advice. How do you help him discern God's will?