

3 Dedications of Discerning God's Direction:

(Rom 12:1-2)

Dedication: to set apart for sacred use.

Discerning: to come to know or recognize.

Direction: authoritative instruction and guidance.

I. Dedicate our Bodies to God: Presentation

I beseech ye therefore brethren by the mercies of God that ye present your bodies...

Our presentation of our bodies is a result of realizing God's Mercy toward us. (1 Pet 1:3)

Our Presentation of ur bodies is a Willing Sacrifice.
(Gen 22:9-10)

A Sacrifice should be a sacrifice: Something must die.
Your Sacrifice should be willingly:

Our Presentation should be Holy
(1 Pet 1:15-16)
(Rom 6:12-13)

Our Presentation should be Acceptable to God.
(Gen 4:3-7)

II. Dedicate our Minds to God: Transformation

...but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind...

Transformed: a change in form; Metamorphosis.

Renewing: to revive or re-awaken.

Renewing our mind is a process of giving our Thinking over to God.

(Proverbs 23:7a) *For as a Man thinketh in his heart, so is he.*

(Isaiah 55:9) *For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts:*

(Prov 3:5-6) *Trust i the Lord with all thine heart: and lean not unto thy own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.*

When God sees our sinful thought lives, it Him.

(Gen 6:5-6) *God saw the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his hearts was only evil continually. And it repented the Lord that he had made man on earth.*

Because of Wickedness we are often Deceived into believing our thoughts are pure.

(Jeremiah 17:9) *The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked who can know it?*

Ask God to show us our true Heart & Thoughts of our minds.

(Ps 139:23-24) *Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.*

The Word of God is able to Discern our true thoughts and intents.

(Heb 4:12) *For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the*

dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the the thought and intents of the heart.

Returning to the Lord is the cure for Improper Thoughts.

This is a continual process.

(Is 55:7) Let the wicked forsake his way, and the righteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

Committing our lives unto the Lord will change our thought life.

(Prov 16:2-3) all the ways of man are clean in his own eyes; but the Lord weighted the spirits. Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established.

III. Dedicate Ourselves to God's Standard: Conformation

(Rom 12:2) And be not Conformed to this World...

Being Conformed to the World means being poured into the World's way of thinking and conducting ourselves.

(2 Tim 3:16-17) All Scripture is given by the inspiration go God, and is profitable (Its main use is..)

for Doctrine, (What's Right)

for Reproof, (What's Not Right)

for Correction, (How to get Right)

for Instruction in Righteous, (How to Stay Right)

The Man of God (Christian)

may be perfect (Mature/Complete)

thoroughly furnished (Become well polished)

unto all good works.

(1 Jn 2:15) Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

We cannot be conformed to this world and please God at the same time.

Being Conformed to Jesus versus being conformed to the world means being poured into the mold of God's way conducting our lives.

(Rom 8:28-29a) And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them that are called according to His Purpose. For Whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son...

"to them that love God"

(1 John 4:2) Can't love God & Hate my brother too. Liar

(1 John 5:2) Can't love God and Disobey. (John 14:15, 23)

Just we are "called according to his purpose." don't mean we all answer the call.

Free Will is still in Play here.

Just Because "he did foreknow," And "he also did predestinated" Does not mean we have answered & Obeyed

Part of being Conformed to God's Image means Letting Go of our Past Grievances.

(Eph 4:31-32) Let all bitterness, (Compressed Feelings)

and wrath, (Feelings of Getting Even)

and anger, and clamour, (Arguing)

and evil speaking, (Gossiping)

be put away from you, with all malice: (Desire for physical injury)

32 *And be ye kind one to another, (An Outward Expressing of Feelings)*

tenderhearted, (Inward Expression of Feelings)

forgiving one another, (An Upward Expression of Feelings)

even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Properly Controlled Emotions show others our that our Strength is in Christ.

(Prov 16:32) He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.

If we lose control of our Emotions, we are vulnerable to Satan's Attack.

(Prov 25:28) He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.

IV. Discerning God's Direction:

that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.

You know God's direction for you if these Three areas of your life are dedicated to God.

We will know God's perfect will for our lives if we dedicate these three areas of our life to God.

We do our part by committing to these three dedications, and God will do the rest by working out His will in our lives.

God's will is a Day-to-Day Process.

Present ourself daily as a living sacrifice.

Commit ourself to the transforming of our mind to the mind of Christ.

Determine not to be conformed to the mold of the world; rather accepting to conform to God's standard of living. With these three in place, we will never lack God's guidance

THE GOAL!!! PROVE THAT THE WILL OF GOD is GOOD = ACCEPTABLE = PERFECT=

The Proof is in the pudding! We Prove that God is real!

The greatest proof of God is a change in us!

Greatest Witness of all is a change in us! Let's COWBOY UP!

Because Jesus Suffered in the Flesh for us, we should take upon ourselves the same Mind of Christ.

(1 Pet 4:1-2) Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin; 2 That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God.

3 Dedications:

Present yourself a living sacrifice unto God.

Commit yourself to the Transforming of your mind to Christ.

Determine that you will not be conformed to the mold of this world: rather, accept conformity to God's Standard of Living.

When these are in your lives, you will never lack God's Guidance for your life.