



Lesson #10: The Center of God's Will in Egypt (Genesis 46)

Sometimes we talk about "finding God's will" as though it's _____. We treat it as though we are to discover somehow where it's been hidden. We discuss it as though God is playing a game on us hoping that we will be able to find out His will.

7x in chapter 45 we read how Joseph asked his brother to go and get their father, Jacob, and bring him back to Egypt. But dad was a little confused. Jacob is _____ years old when he hears the news that his son Joseph is alive and asking him to come to Egypt and may be a little set in his ways. He had a decision to make but he's not sure what to do. In this passage, Jacob is going to seek the Lord. He wants to find out if going to Egypt is actually God's will for him and his family.

In his moment of indecision, Jacob demonstrates for us three keys to finding God's will in your moment of _____.

In your moment of indecision you must continue to _____ God

What do you do when you don't know what to do? For Jacob, he decided to have a worship service.

A. True worship is _____ (46:1)

Jacob travels to Beersheba to "offer sacrifices unto God." As he made these sacrifices he was ...

1. _____ sin
2. Offering _____ to God
3. Seeking the _____ of the Lord.

Here Jacob demonstrates that if you are going to be in hearing distance of God you need to be sacrificing much to follow Him. In our lives it is necessary that we follow the step by step outline of _____ that we may know God's will for our lives.

B. True worship is very personal (46:1-2)

Jacob has received such wonderful news that his beloved son Joseph is alive, but rather than spontaneously going to Egypt to see him he travels _____ miles away to Beersheba so that he may have a prayer and worship service. Scripture is very clear that we ought to _____ on the Lord. Jacob is spending time with God in quiet contemplation that He may get to know the mind of God.

In your moment of indecision you must _____ to God's _____

The Bible indicates that God primarily reveals His will to believers through His written Word (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

A. God's Word shows you your _____ (46:2)

God twice calls Jacob by name: "Jacob! Jacob! (46:2). God is using his personal name to remind him that he is talking about him specifically. He's also reminding him, perhaps, of his _____. Jacob was a deceiver but God has done a lot of work in his heart and life. God calls him and reminds him that He will "make of thee a great nation." This deceptive and devious man was still being used of God.

B. God's Word shows you God's _____ (46:3-4)

God graciously assures Jacob of His presence, and so the patriarch knows that all will take place just as God has said. Jacob likely did not expect the Lord to call him to _____, and we too may find God calling us to do hard things for Him. But like Jacob, we can be _____ that He is with us even when we must go where we do not want to go.

In your moment of indecision you must obediently follow God's _____

Too often when we are unsure of something we never put our shoes on and get moving.

A. Obedience always involves _____ (46:5-7)

When Jacob gets a handle on God's revelation to him he _____ responds. What we see in Scripture over and over is the same thing. When we are trying to discern God's will we need to get up and move. If we hear the Word and don't do anything about it we are _____ to ourselves (Jm. 1:22)

B. Obedience often involves _____ (46:8-27)

In verses 8-27 we get a long list of names. The most important thing to note in this listing of genealogies is that all those named in Numbers _____ as heads of tribes or families are found in this listing of descendants in Genesis 46. The author (Moses) intended not to name every person who went to Egypt, but every _____ of family or clan who would come forth from Egypt. What we see here is that God took the leadership of Jacob and caused his influence to impact millions of his descendants thousands of years later.

Concluding Thoughts

Genesis 46 gives us the account of a man (Jacob) who was having a really hard time getting clarity on what God wanted him to do. As a 130 year old man he was being asked to lead 70 of the chosen ones of God down to Egypt. Frankly, Jacob was pretty afraid of what could come next. He was being asked to uproot all that he has and all that he knows to go to a land that is mostly known for its pagan idolatry. In that moment of indecision he demonstrates for us the three keys to finding God's will and teaches us that **God will take care of his people but his people must learn to _____ Him.**