

Doing the Will of God Consistently

by Zac Poonen

To become spiritual, we must consistently choose to deny our self-will and do God's will every day.

Scripture: Matthew 16:24, John 6:38, Romans 8:5, Galatians 2:20, Philippians 2:5

Topics: "Following God", "Spiritual Growth"

Description

Zac Poonen preaches on the importance of consistently denying our own will and doing the will of God, just as Jesus did during His time on earth. Jesus' life was characterized by the constant denial of His self-will, making Him a spiritual Man, and this same denial is what Jesus calls us to bear daily. Our spirituality is determined by the countless decisions we make each day, whether to please ourselves or to glorify God, ultimately shaping who we become in humility, holiness, and love.

Transcript

"I came down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him Who sent Me" (Jn.6:38).

Jesus tells us here in His own words what He came on earth to do. And in this one sentence, we have a description of how Jesus lived every single day of His life on earth. The thirty years of Jesus' life in Nazareth are referred to as hidden years. But here Jesus tells us what He did during every day of those 30 years: He denied His own will and did His Father's will.

When Jesus was with the Father in heaven from eternity past, He never had to deny His own will, for His own will was the same as His Father's. But when He came to earth in our flesh, that flesh had a self-will that was diametrically opposed to the Father's will at every single point. The only way in which Jesus could do His Father's will then was by denying His own self-will all the time. This was the cross that Jesus bore throughout His earthly life - the crucifixion of His own will - and which He now asks us to bear every day, if we are to follow Him.

It was the consistent denial of His own will that made Jesus a spiritual Man. And it is the constant denial of our self-will that will make us spiritual too. Every day we make decisions concerning various matters. We make decisions in relation to how we are going to spend our money or our spare time, or how to speak to, or about someone, or how to write a particular letter, or how to react to another's behaviour, or how much time to spend in studying the Word or in prayer or in serving the church, etc. We react to the actions and words and behaviour of people around us from morning till night. We may not be realising it, but we make at least a hundred decisions every day - and in each of those decisions, we decide either to please

ourselves or to please God.

Many of our actions are not the result of conscious decisions. But even then, we do them in one of these two ways - either seeking to please ourselves or to glorify God. Our unconscious actions are determined by the way we make our conscious decisions. Finally, it is the sum total of these decisions that determine whether we become spiritual or carnal.

Think of the millions of decisions that we have made ever since we were first converted. Those who have consciously and consistently chosen to deny their self-will many times each day and to do the will of God have become spiritual. On the other hand, those who have rejoiced merely in the forgiveness of their sins and who, therefore, chose to please themselves most of the time have remained carnal. Each person's decisions have determined what he has finally become.

You are today as humble and as holy and as loving as you yourself have chosen to be through the thousands of decisions that you have made in the various situations of life in past years.

Spirituality is not something that comes through one encounter with God. It is the result of choosing the way of self-denial and of doing God's will **CONSISTENTLY** day after day, week after week, and year after year.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/zac-poonen/doing-the-will-of-god-consistently/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net