

# Small Group Discussion Guide

“Waiting on Will” (pt. 2) – 7/27/2014

**Scripture:** John 7:14-24

**Bottom Line:** Follow God's will to bless God, not yourself.

**INTRODUCTION:** What on earth am I here for? We are here to follow God's will. Today we will look at a passage about following God's will, discuss it, then discuss what God's will is for our lives?

## UNPACKING THE GOSPEL IN THE BIBLE:

**Read John 7:14-24**

Jesus' teachings made people think. Not only did they find the message shocking but they also found him shocking. How could an uneducated (by comparison to the Pharisees) man from a small town know the word of God like he did? Jesus essentially tells the crowd, “If you really want to do God's will, then you will know that I'm from God because I seek God's glory, not my own glory. As it is, you cannot even follow Moses who gave you the Law in the Old Testament. You have become so consumed with following rules and seeking your own glory that you cannot even rejoice when a man gets healed to the glory of God.” That is why verse 24 drives home the point of making a right judgment. The people were so laser focused on following God's will for their lives in order to bring attention to themselves that they were opposed when acts were done by people to bring attention to God, which is what Jesus was doing.

When you do things that you know are God's will, are you doing them to bring attention to yourself or are you doing them to bless God?

## UNDERSTANDING HOW THE GOSPEL APPLIES TO MY LIFE:

What is God's will?

- God's will or his plan for our lives involves both the entire world and your individual life. With regard to the entire world, God has launched a movement to bring redemption to the world through Jesus Christ. The

church serves as his hands and feet in the world, loving God's enemies and telling them his message of forgiveness and reconciliation with God through faith in Jesus the Savior.

- God's will for our individual life will in some way fit into his larger will for the world. In fact, God's will for your life will always fall in line with these 3 things:
  - God's will always agrees with God's word to me.
  - God's will for me always seeks God's glory in me.
  - God's will for me always offers the gospel through me.

So whether you serve as a pastor, small group leader, set up/tear down member, CrossingKids Leader, etc, God's will involves you advancing his mission through the church.

What exactly is God's will for my life?

- Wait for it....wait for it....wait....boom!
- Love God and do whatever you want!
  - If you are loving God, then you will not pursue selfish gains or attention. So be creative...follow your passions...and let God bless the offering that you want to give to him!

Good news about God's will for you?

- God is sovereign. He is there to help you figure out what it best.
- God is forgiving. When we make it about ourselves, he forgives.
- God does not need us to accomplish his will, but by his grace we have the privilege of helping him build his kingdom.

### LIVING OUT THE GOSPEL IN MY EVERYDAY LIFE:

How can you serve God through the church?

What are some steps you can take to serve God in order to bring attention to God and not yourself?

- Identify areas where you are tempted to bring attention to yourself and confess them to some friends who will hold you accountable.
- Pray for God to give you a heart the treasures him.
- Dwell on the words of Scripture throughout your day as a means to fill your mind with God's word.