



Let's Get Better! Let's Do Better! Let's Be Better!
Helping Developing Christians Grow!

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David's Devotional "I Will"

God has given us a WILL! Yes, we have "willpower"! The power to "will"; "want"; "choose"; "decide"; "desire"; etc. It is an incredible thing!

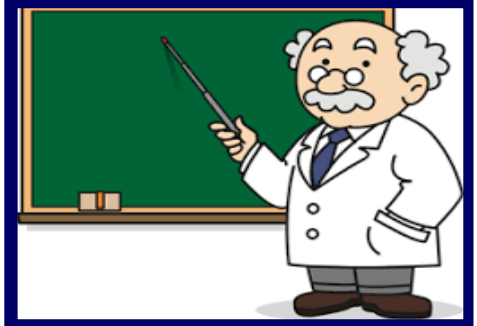
Our whole trouble has been the misuse of this willpower. We have tried to solve all our problems with our "willpower" instead of bringing our will into agreement with God's intentions and purposes; surrendering to God's Will.

Jesus said if we want to be a part of the Kingdom of heaven, we must yield to God's Will, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." **Matthew 7:21**

Jesus Himself is our perfect example of doing the Will of God. He wanted the "cup" He faced to "pass from Him", but He made this powerful statement: "... nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done." **Luke 22:42**

What if Noah, Abraham, Moses, and especially Jesus had done their own will instead of God's Will? Where would they be? Where would we be? Their decisions to surrender to God's Will not only affected them, they had a profound impact on all of humanity!

What if we do our own will instead of God's Will? It will matter! If we want what He wants, our lives will be better! Will it not? David Conley



An Interesting Quote:

"We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone."

Ronald Reagan

"And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;" **Luke 6:13**

Jesus had many disciples, but only chose twelve to be His apostles. Was that "fair"? Yes! We say it's not fair if we don't help, choose, use, award, etc. EVERYONE, if we can't do these for ANYONE! This is a mistake! If everyone does what we can, then so much more would be accomplished. Instead of not helping anyone because we can't help everyone; help someone like we wished we could help everyone!

David Conley

Did You Know?

June 21st is the Longest Day & the Shortest Day of the Year!

Those standing in the Northern Hemisphere sees the longest day while those standing in the Southern Hemisphere sees the shortest day.

What we see depends on where we stand! **Romans 8:1** "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are **in Christ Jesus**..."

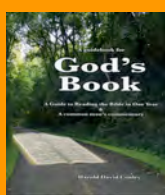
Where do we stand?

What Happened?

Gospel Meeting at the River Road Church of Christ



Debra & I really enjoyed the fellowship, food, and, yes, FUN, we had during this week! It was good to see everyone!



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Devotional Books by David Conley

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Once Upon A Time ...

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven"
Ecclesiastes 3:1

**Mrs. Boozer**

Mrs. Boozer was my English teacher at New Bethel Elementary School. She was very strict!

"Strict" is not really the word, but time and space forbids me to explain the full truth of the matter. I will simply tell you that the shades in her room were black! They were always down, except the one next to her desk at the front of the room which was slightly raised to allow a stream of light across her face. You dare not speak in her classroom unless you were called upon to do so, and even then you weren't sure if you should! There was always a sense of dread when it was time to attend her class.

The school had some sort of "Activity Day". There would be a Police Car, a Fire Truck, and other interesting things. We were asked to sign up for one activity. As I looked over the choices, I saw that Mrs. Boozer was going to show slides from her trip to England. I had seen a Police Car and a Fire Truck (though not up close), but I had never seen England! Surely everyone would want to see that, even if it was in Mrs. Boozer's classroom.

When I entered the room, I was the only 4th Grader there. All the others were in the 1st or 2nd Grade (I later learned the younger classes had not been given a choice to sign up. They had been assigned to Mrs. Boozer to baby sit)! All of the older kids were sitting in the Police Car or climbing on the Fire Truck. My buddies really made fun of me. I tried to save face by saying that it was some sort of mistake, but in my heart I enjoyed seeing those pictures! I'll bet none of them got to see a Royal Guard with a black furry hat stand at attention outside Buckingham Palace that day!

Mrs. Boozer showed each colorful slide, giving full details with great enthusiasm! She beamed with joy, her smile was contagious, and she was glad I was there. (I was too!) It was exciting. I had never seen such things! It was all new to me! Perhaps I was getting a taste of what Solomon wrote in **Proverbs 25:25** *"As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country."* David Conley

Understanding & Perception

A preacher told the story of the prodigal son from Luke chapter fifteen. He wanted to emphasize the disagreeable attitude of the older brother.

After going through the details of the story, he asked his class, *"Can anybody tell me who was not happy to see the prodigal son return home?"* A small boy, who had been listening intently to the story, put up his hand. *"I know,"* he beamed, *"it was the fatted calf!"*

We each have a particular point of view in our own "world" of experiences, understandings, beliefs, reasoning, etc. The small boy in the above story gathered the data; pondered the question; and logically concluded that the fatted calf was the obvious answer to the question!

Jesus had the same issue with His hearers. They would listen to his teaching but draw the wrong conclusions. Jesus said, *"And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:"* **Matthew 13:14**

It is very important to rightly divide the word of truth as we read and study (**II Timothy 2:15**).

Paul wanted Timothy to understand the Gospel and not rely on his own perception. We would do well to pray the same prayer Paul prayed for Timothy:

"Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things." **II Timothy 2:7**

David Conley

A Funny Thing Happened ...

The preacher had a large family Bible on his desk. He kept several notes there as well as old photographs, documents, and other memorabilia. He asked one of the children in his class to go to his office and retrieve a note he had placed in the Bible near Genesis chapter three. The child hurried off to the preacher's office and soon returned with an excited look on his face! The preacher asked if he had found the note.

No sir, but I found this. He produced a large dried leaf that had been pressed between the pages. He exclaimed, *"I think it's Adam's underwear!"*

The preacher thought of **II Timothy 3:5** *"Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: ..."*. We may not find real fig leaves from the Garden of Eden in our Bible, but shouldn't we find the evidence and reality of the God's Word in our lives? We often quote, teach, preach, argue, and opine about the Bible, but do we see, taste, touch, smell, and hear it in our lives? It's real!