

# Discovering God's Will for Your Life

## Faulty ways of thinking of God's will

Over the years, anxious, risk-averse Christians have developed a number of tools for discerning God's will. Tonight, we will look at four common tools Christians use<sup>i</sup>. All four tools can be used wisely. And all four can be instruments of foolishness.

### 1. OPEN DOORS (AND DON'T BE AFRAID TO KNOCK)

*In such cases, when we speak of open doors, we are merely referring to opportunities God has given us to do the good things we already wanted to do or bless whatever bad idea we've already decided to do.*

### 2. FLEE THE FLEECE!

*Although making decisions by testing God with fleeces is generally a bad idea, sometimes it can look similar to setting reasonable goals.*

*The whole fleece approach to life is dangerously close to violating Jesus' admonition, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test" (Matthew 4:7).*

### 3. RANDOM ACCESS MEMORY (RAM) vs READ ONLY MEMORY (ROM)

*Sadly, some Christians put greater stock in the Word of God **when it is randomly selected** rather than **when it is read chapter by chapter, day after day**. The Bible carries no greater weight just because verses are flipped to at random.*

### 4. IMPRESSIONS & INTUITIONS

*Making decisions based on a feeling or our intuition. We get an impression of what to do and we do it. We all do it. However, don't confuse impressions, hunches, and subjective feelings with certain words from the Lord.*

**TAKE THE GOD-CENTERED APPROACH - Wisdom (Proverbs 2:1-6)**

*...then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God...*

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<sup>i</sup> Just Do Something – A Liberating Approach to Finding God's Will, Kevin DeYoung