

Doctrinal Studies Bible Church  
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Study: Book of Galatians

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Gal.5:16-18  
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### **THE DIRECTIVE WILL OF GOD**

We have divided (Gal.5:1-26) into two sections based on the theme of Spiritual Freedom (Gal.5:1, 13).

- (Gal.5:1-12) Spiritual freedom from Slavery of legalism
- (Gal.5:13-16) Spiritual freedom from slavery of flesh

We have divided (Gal.5:13-26) into four sections for study.

- (Gal.5:13-15) Deployment (aphorme) of the Flesh
- (Gal.5:16-18) Desires (epithumia) of the Flesh
- (Gal.5:19-23) Deeds (ergon) of the Flesh
- (Gal.5:24-26) Death (stauroo) to the Flesh

There are three classifications of the Will of God in the Plan of God: Directive Will; Permissive Will; and Over-Ruling Will.

- **Directive Will** is God's revealed categories of Bible doctrine for every Church Age Believer (CAB).
- **Permissive Will** is when God allows the believer to choose against His Directive Will.
- **Over-ruling Will** supersedes all categories and classifications of God's Will in order to preserve the integrity of the Plan of God (John 6:38-40).

<b>This lesson will study four aspects of the Directive Will of God regarding Spirituality</b>
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1. In the study on Deployment of Flesh (Gal.5:13-15), we were given an important **Directive Will of God** to be used in opposition to the flesh (OSN) attacking other believers.

(Gal.5:13) "For you were called to freedom, only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love (tes agape) serve (douleuo/ p.a.impv.2pl) [command] one another."

2. In today's study of Desires of Flesh (Gal.5:16-18), the **Directive Will of God** is given to be used in opposition to the flesh carrying out the desires of the flesh.

(Gal.5:16) "But I say, walk (peripateo/ p.a.impv.2pl) [command] by the Spirit (no def. Article/ pneuma) [instrumental of means singular feminine], and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh."

3. The Directive Will of God always involves three categories: **Geographical Will**; **Mental Will**; and **Operational Will**. In today's lesson, the Directive Will is to walk by means of Spirit (Gal.5:16).

- **Geographical Will** (who and where)
  - The churches of south Galatia (Gal.1:1-2; Acts 13-4)
- **Mental Will** (why and how)
  - Through love serve (douleuo) [a servant's mental attitude] those believers who are biting, devouring, and consuming you (Gal.5:13-15; Rom.8:5-8; 13:14).
- **Operational Will** (what and when)

- Two present imperatives: serve (douleuo) and walk (peripateo) by means of the indwelling Holy Spirit (1 Cor.6:19-20; John 7:37-39; Gal.5:16)
- “But if (1cc) [true] you are led (ago/ p.p.ind.2pl) by the Spirit (inst. of means), you are not under (huper+abl.) [of authority] the law (nomos).” (Gal.5:18)

**[All three must always line-up with the directive will (Rom.12:2).]**

**4. This lesson is intended to impress upon you how important the Directive Will of God is to the Christian Way of Life (CWL).**

**Our final study point will list six reasons why the Directive Will of God is important to CWL.**

**1<sup>st</sup>** The sovereignty of God comes to the Church Age Believer (CAB) as the directive will of God by CBD (categorical Bible doctrine) (Eph.1:11-14)

**2<sup>nd</sup>** The Church Age Believer (CAB) is instructed to pray according to it and not necessarily for it. (1 John 5:14-15)

**3<sup>rd</sup>** The Church Age Believer (CAB) is instructed to pray for wisdom about its application. (James 1:2-8; 4:13-15).

**4<sup>th</sup>** The Church Age Believer (CAB) is instructed to pray to be filled with the knowledge and spiritual wisdom of His Will in order to ‘Walk’ to please God. (Col.1:9-10; Eph.5:17)

**5<sup>th</sup>** We are instructed to do the Will of God from the heart. (Eph.6:6; Col.4:12).

**6<sup>th</sup>** God will equip the spiritually advancing believer in every aspect necessary to do His Will. (Heb.13:21).