



The Key to the Successful Christian Life

Romans 12:1-2

Steve Townsend

9/29/24

I. The PREMISE – *“Therefore”*

II. The PARTICIPANTS – *“brethren”*

III. The PLEA – *“I beseech you by the mercies of God”*

IV. The PRECEPTS

A. Present your bodies

1. A Graphic **REQUIREMENT** – *“a living sacrifice”*
2. A Great **RATIONALE** – *“which is your reasonable service”*

B. Do not be conformed to this world

C. Be transformed – *“by the renewing of your mind”*

1. The **ARENA**: The mind

2. The **AIM**: The will of God

V. The **PROCESS**

A. Dedication – *“present your bodies a living sacrifice”*

1. It is **SOLEMN**
2. It is **SINGULAR** (a one-time act)
3. It is **SPECIFIC** (all-encompassing)

B. Transformation – *“be transformed by the renewing of your mind”*

1. It is **CONTINUOUS**
2. It is **CENTERED** (the battleground is the mind)
3. It is **CONCENTRATED** (on the will of God)

VI. The **PRIZE** – *“that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God”*

1. Success: Discovering the **WILL** of God and doing it.
2. Will of God: Exactly what I would **CHOOSE** if I had all the facts.

Guidelines to consider for being in God’s will:

1. God’s will always aligns with what His Word says is **RIGHT** and what is **WRONG**
2. God’s will includes God-given **AUTHORITIES** in my life (but only as the authorities are in alignment with God’s Word)
3. God’s will demands first a willingness to **OBEY** whatever He says before you even know what His will is
4. God’s will involves the input from other **MEMBERS** of the Body of Christ (the multitude of counselors). No one has a monopoly on wisdom.
5. God’s will involves a **SERIOUS** seeking and praying (*Prov. 3:5,6; 1 Thess. 5:18; Matt 6:33; Psalm 37:4-5*)
6. Pray Col. 1:9-11 every day (for yourself and for your loved ones)