

#TargetPractice: What should I want?

Follow God's will. What is God's will?

God's will is for us to love God and love others. (Matthew 22:37-39)

God's will does not require you to do something wrong. (Romans 6:12-14)

If something comes up that seems like a good opportunity but would include hurting someone, would it be God's will?

Let me tell you a story from the Old Testament. (1 Samuel 24:3-7)

- David had been told he would be the next King of Israel
- Saul found out and was angry. He started trying to kill David so it wouldn't happen.
- David was constantly on the run; trying to hide
- Saul's army came close to David (but didn't know it) and David hid in a cave.
- Saul had to go to the bathroom and went into the cave to have privacy, not knowing that David was in there and very close by.
- David's men said this was an opportunity God provided so he could kill Saul to become King now and stop having to run.
- David knew God wouldn't want him to kill the King. Instead he cut a piece of his robe off.
- After Saul left and was a distance away, David yelled to get Saul's attention and showed him the piece of robe to prove David could have killed him but chose not to.
- David did eventually become King, but it was in God's way and time.

That was a pretty obvious decision. We know killing someone is definitely wrong.

What if you are walking in a crowded area. Maybe a store or an amusement park. You see a wallet lying on the ground just ahead of you. When you pick it up, it has money in it.

- Would this be God blessing you with some extra money to spend?
- What should you do?
- How would it possibly hurt the person who dropped it if you took it?

How do we know what is right or wrong?

16 All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching and for showing people what is wrong in their lives. It is useful for correcting faults and teaching how to live right. 17 Using the Scriptures, the person who serves God will be ready and will have everything he needs to do every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17 ICB)