

# This is the Will of God For You

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1 Thessalonians 5:18b

*Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

## Main Idea:

**The reason we rejoice, pray, and give thanks  
is that it is the will of God in Christ Jesus for us.**

*Read Verses 16-18.*

## 1.) This Is the Will of God for You

*"For this is the will of God, your sanctification." (1 Thessalonians 4:3)*

A.) Rejoice Always

B.) Pray Without Ceasing

C.) In Everything, Give Thanks

*"That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him." –Heidelberg Catechism*

## 2.) The Proper Motivation: "in Christ Jesus"

A.) "In Christ Jesus" Grounds These Three Imperatives in the Irrevocable Grace of God That is Ours Through Christ.

B.) What God Demands of His People, He Also Gives

C.) These Mandates aren't Necessary in Order to Receive Something

D.) They are Necessary Because They are the Inevitable Result of That Which We Have Received

E.) The Will of God is the Gift of God in Christ Jesus

F.) This Gift is Certain

*"To all those for whom Christ has obtained eternal redemption, He certainly and effectually applies and imparts it. He intercedes for them, unites them to Himself by His Spirit, and reveals to them in and by His Word the mystery of salvation. He persuades them to believe and obey and governs their hearts by His Word and Spirit. He overcomes all their enemies by His almighty power and wisdom, using methods and ways that are perfectly consistent with His wonderful and unsearchable governance. All these things are by free and absolute grace, apart from any condition for obtaining it that is foreseen in them." -1689 London Baptist Confession of Faith*

*"The reason the apostle gives for this call to joy, prayer, and thanksgiving is the strongest and highest imaginable for the Christian. These are not optional, secondary characteristics of the Christian's existence but stand at the center of God's plan for his people in Christ Jesus." -Gene L. Green*

*"each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. 3 And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. 4 They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads. 5 There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever." (Revelation 22:2-5)*