

I. God Is Aware of Your Situation

II. God Will Answer Your Supplication

The first prerequisite is to acknowledge your sin and its dangerous effects and consequences (v.8).

The second prerequisite to guidance is humility (v. 9).

The third prerequisite to guidance is obedience (v. 10).

The fourth prerequisite to guidance is holy fear and friendship (vv. 12-14).

REFLECT AND DISCUSS

Warm-up. If God handed you an envelope with a written explanation of his will for the next five years, would you take it? Why do you suppose God doesn't just send us personalized email explicitly telling us what he wants us to do?

Read Psalm 25. Ask God to bless your study.

1. What is the emotional state of the psalmist? In what ways can you relate to how David is feeling?
2. How is the part of David's prayer, when he asks, "teach me your paths" (vv. 4-5), the crux of rightly knowing God's will?
3. We might think that our past sins keep us from ever fulfilling God's best. What does the text say to this (vv. 6-11)?
4. If a prerequisite to guidance is humility (v. 9), then what does it mean to be humble in learning God's will?
5. In your experience, how does our obedience or disobedience affect our ability to know and do God's will?
6. How does a holy fear and friendship (vv. 12-14) with the Lord help you to know and live out God's will (John 15:15)?
7. We can be paralyzed with the dread of getting God's will wrong, getting on a wrong path and into trouble. How can David's words in verses 10 and 15 help?
8. What are the dangers of looking at God's Word with the lens of the culture to make decisions, rather than looking at the culture with the lens of God's Word in making your decisions?
9. Which prerequisites to guidance from this Psalm would you particularly like to imitate and work on at this time in your life?