

LEARNER SHEET: THE DIVINE WILL

Mark 14:32-35



THE BIG IDEA

God's will for the world is expressed as a loving embrace.

BIG FUN IDEA

Decorate the front doors of your church with colorful streamers. On the outside of the doors post signs that say "Your kingdom come" to remind people that they bring God's larger world with them to church. On the inside of the doors post signs that say "Your will be done" to remind your brothers and sisters at church that they are called to live out God's good news in their everyday lives.

BIG SERVING IDEA

Assemble health kits or school kits for children who cannot afford these things. Find instructions for making the kits at the Lutheran World Relief Web site (www.lwr.org).

PRAYER TIME

Remember your partner's prayer needs—record them here.

DISCUSSION TIME

- **Name three activities that you love so much you lose track of time when you're doing them. How could doing what you love intersect with God's will for the world?**
- **Doing God's will is based on trusting God to love us and give us the strength we need to make the world a better place. How do we build trust with God?**
- **Has a friend or family member ever asked you to help him or her make a decision for his or her life? Could you invite that person to pray with you about the decision?**

LEARNER TAKE-HOME SHEET: THE DIVINE WILL

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Take this sheet home and keep it someplace near the dinner table like on the fridge. At least three times next week at dinner, use Prayer Time and one other family activity to make your confirmation learning come alive!

PRAYER TIME

Loving God, make us willing to do your will. Strengthen us to stop focusing on ourselves and to be satisfied with “enough.” May your spirit lead us to seek the courage we only find in you. Amen

TALK TIME

- Just for a day, experiment in your family with “the first shall be last and the last shall be first.” The one who sleeps longest gets up earliest; the one who usually leads the conversations waits for others to talk. What does trying out this concept teach you about God’s will?
- Insert a new phrase into family conversations: “What would it look like if we trusted God about this?” As you discuss finances, friends, decisions, and activities, turn to this question and begin to see a life lived with God at the center.
- Doing God’s will involves using and expressing the gifts God instills in each of us. Pay attention to the things each member of your family loves. Encourage them to practice their music, drama, art, and various skills. Sometimes we can see others’ gifts more clearly than we can see our own. Name a gift you see in a family member and tell her or him how she or he looks when using this God-given talent.

WEB TIME

Gather around the family computer and use an Internet search engine to search for the key words for this week. Write down the most interesting site you find that pops up for each term. Then do a search for “enough.” What do you find? Explore five sites that mention the term, and discuss the various opinions and perspectives you find. What are they trying to say? What kind of organizations do you think built the sites? Discuss.



KEY WORDS

Keep a family white board someplace near the dinner table, and write these words on it. Try writing a family definition for each one during the week.

WILL
WILLINGNESS
TRUST



RITUAL TIME

Make a family commitment to do God’s will. Agree that all of you will serve at a food bank, visit an ailing church member, or participate in an AIDS walk. Get your commitment on the calendar!