

WHEN GOD'S WILL IS UNCLEAR

Three virtues for peace of mind

What should we do when we're facing a choice, and God's will is unclear? These moments can be frustrating and unsettling. We can practice three virtues during such times: patience, fidelity, and trust.

1

PATIENCE

When God's will remains unclear, his will for now is that we *do nothing*. There is clarity in the ambiguity. Sometimes God asks that we continue to wait and watch for signs of his will for us. Often there is a lesson in the waiting.

2

FIDELITY

While we may not have clarity about our particular situation, we do have clarity about what God has already revealed to us in the Church's moral teaching, the Beatitudes, the sacraments, and the Ten Commandments. We should continue to be faithful to these revealed teachings.

3

TRUST

Often God reveals his will for us one small step at a time. At the Annunciation, Mary received news that she would bear the Son of God, but she didn't know how it would all work out. Like Mary, we have to have courage, trusting God as he leads us through one door at a time.

BASED ON FR. MIKE SCHMITZ

PRAYER FOR DECISION MAKING

Lord, Almighty God, source of light, truth, and eternal goodness, transform this present moment into an hour of vision and inspiration. Help me to find wisdom; shed light on my thoughts. May my aspirations come true through righteous and good deeds. Give me the strength to concentrate, to think objectively, and to see clearly. Shed your light on me so that I may see which decision to make. Help me, O my Eternal God, to avoid vanity and pride, and thus be able to make worthy decisions as a true child of yours.

Amen.

