

77. If it is Your Will

"And He [that's Jesus] withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and began to pray, saying, 'Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done.'"

Luke 22:41-42

Jesus prayed these words in the Garden of Gethsemane just before He was arrested, tried, and crucified. There's an important part of prayer in His words, "Yet not My

will, but Yours be done." A condition for answered prayer is praying in God's will. "This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him," 1 John 5:14-15. Praying with faith is a condition for answered prayer. But that doesn't exclude adding if it be Your will to your requests.

Do you want God to be involved in your plans? You shouldn't! Instead want God to include you in *His* plans. Don't ask for His blessing on your plans ... ask Him to bless

you by including you in His plans. Pray with confident faith. "Ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways," James 1:6-8. But be careful. Be confident in prayer ... but at the same time pray for your Father's will. That's the way Jesus prayed. Follow His example. Pray, Not my will, but Yours be done.

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