



Grace Assembly Of God

CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER BIBLE READING DEVOTIONAL

Scripture:	James 4	Title:	“Submit to God’s Will”
Author	Steven Chan		
Summary of Chapter	In this chapter, James encourages us to draw near to God, and instructs Christians to turn from evil desires and to obey God. He also warns against judging others and relying on our self-confidence.		

Key Verse(s) NLT How does it speak to me?

<p><i>¹³ Look here, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We will do business there and make a profit.”</i></p> <p><i>¹⁵ What you ought to say is, “If the Lord wants us to, we will live and do this or that.”</i></p>	<p>I learnt a valuable lesson on how to submit to God’s will when I was with my mother in the very last moment of her life.</p> <p>She was in an advanced stage of cancer of the lungs. For the one month before she passed on, she suffered severe pains and had to be confined to a bed in our home. At that time, my mother and I were attending a church that believed very strongly on miracle healing. Moments before she passed on, she proclaimed to me that she was ready to leave this life for heaven. But she wasn’t willing to go until she saw Jesus coming to lead her home. She asked me to pray for her to see Jesus. I did not know how to pray in Cantonese, so I prayed in English, which my mother did not understand.</p> <p>As her son, I wanted her healed and to continue living. Yet, as a son of God, I knew it was all up to Abba. Then, holding her hands, I prayed, “Father, here lies Your daughter whom You dearly love. If it is Your will to give her more time on earth, then heal her. But if it is time for her to leave, she wants to see Jesus lead her home.” As soon as I finished the last phrase, she sat up from her bed, and said, “It is ok now, I see Him, I see Him.” With those last words and a clearly noticeable smile on her face, she gave up her spirit.</p> <p>For me, that moment was as painful as it was glorious. God’s will was done and my mother was assured, and so were Michelle and I. Submitting to God’s will in every of our decision is not easy to do but it is a reverent step to honour Abba. It is also a necessary demonstration of our trust and faith in God who always has the best plan for us.</p>
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APPLICATION REFLECTIONS

Adult:	What is God saying to you about submitting to His will? How can you grow to trust that His will is always the best for you?
Youth:	What is something you can do today to submit to God’s will?
Child:	Obedying your parents is what God wants you to do. Think of one action you can do to show your obedience to them today.

PRAYER

Praying Scripture:	”Abba, teach us to make every decision with reverence to You. Holy Spirit, help us to be like Christ, who at the point of His impending death, confidently proclaimed, ‘Father, not my will, but Yours be done!’ Help us to do the same.”
Thanksgiving Prayer:	I/We thank you for _____ (e.g. delicious food we ate, places we went, prayer that was answered, etc)
Intercessory Prayer:	I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)
Salvation Prayer:	I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (add one name per day). In Jesus’ Name I/we pray. Amen.