



CEO Devotional – October 7, 2013
Written by Rich Case, Benchmark Associates, Inc.

A New Understanding of God's Will

As I spend time with other executives, a common theme is discussed – “What is God’s will for me; what am I supposed to do, especially what ministry to do for HIM”. As I have pondered these questions for myself and on behalf of my fellow execs, I have come to realize that we are asking the wrong questions. Instead of asking what am I supposed to do, I am to ask more purely: “What is God’s will? And then, “What, Father, is it that you want to do?” And then: “How can I join you in that Will?” I was led to look at how Paul prayed, and I see these questions inherent in how he dialogued with the Father – specifically in:

Ephesians 1: 15 – 21: He prays that we would receive the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of HIM – that we would fully understand His revealing to us what He is planning to do in the everyday circumstances of our lives to bring glory to HIM, so that we have true knowledge (experience) of His nature and power. Specifically that we would experience three things:

1. **The hope of His calling** – we normally would interpret this as His calling for my work for Him – what I am to do; rather, this is an invitation to Himself to experience HIM and His wonderful plans for us as we join Him in His bountiful provision and His bigger story within His eternal purposes.
2. **The riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints** – we typically think of what are elements of our inheritance from God, but actually a very profound truth – WE are HIS inheritance. He created us for fellowship and He wants to reestablish an intimate relationship with us – He wants to be with us and as we die to self, He inherits us back into this wonderful fellowship.
3. **The exceeding greatness of His Power toward us who believe** –He desires that we fully experience Him supernaturally changing circumstances and bringing to resolution issues in our lives that seem impossible or un-resolvable. He wants to lift us from the natural and us trying to figure out what to do, to understand what He wants to do in ways that can only bring Glory to Him – things beyond and bigger than us that require His supernatural intervention.

We experienced this in a very practical way in our company when trying to fill a key corporate position. Normally, we would work hard to find such a person and pray for God to show us what we should do to find this person. This time our exec team gathered in prayer and asked the better questions: “What is your will?” and “What do You want to do?” We heard a promise that He had someone specific for us that would be a perfect fit in all respects – competency, heart and character; and then He gave us the idea to send out an email to those attending my monthly bible teaching letting them know of the opening. We interviewed the woman referred to us and she was whom God had spoken about and we hired her (we still performed background checks and references to confirm). She stepped right in and has been the person that fit in all respects. A few days later we discovered that God worked both sides. Friends of our new hire had heard from God that He had the perfect fit of a company for her – with the right leadership, culture and financial reward – us! Through this we have profoundly seen the true essence of knowing God’s will – it is not about us or what to do for HIM – rather it is simply – What is your will? What is it that You wish to do with the power that is exceedingly more than we could ever imagine? And then, how can we join you in your will to bring glory to You? Ask the better questions and see all that God has planned. It will be spectacular!!