

The  
Middle  
Voice





God's  
Will

?

God's  
Work

# The Active Voice

I give  
advice

# The Active Voice

I give  
advice

# The Passive Voice

I am  
given  
advice

# The Active Voice

I give  
advice

# The Middle Voice

I take  
advice

# The Passive Voice

I am  
given  
advice

The middle voice means I am  
an active participant  
but the action began with  
another.



God's  
Will

?

God's  
Work

God's  
Will

Our  
Prayers

God's  
Work



**John 17: 20** “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 that all of them may be one, Father, **just as you are in me and I am in you.** May they also **be in us** so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

John 17: 22 I have given them **the glory that you gave me**, that they may be one as we are one— 23 I in them and you in me—so that they **may be brought to complete unity**. Then the world will **know** that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

**Genesis 3: 6** When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, **she took** some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and **he ate** it.

# The Active Voice

Eve  
“took”

# The Passive Voice

Adam  
“ate”

Active hearts and passive  
hearts

both lead to a hardening of  
the heart.





# Prayer is...

- - Asking to get in on what God is doing.

- - Becoming aware of what God is doing.

- - Enjoying the fruit of participation.

**Luke 1: 38** “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.”



**Luke 1: 48** From now on all generations will call me  
blessed,

**Luke 1: 48** From now on all generations will call me  
blessed,

**49** for the *Mighty One* has done great things for  
me—

holy is his name.



**Psalm 112: 6** Surely the righteous will never be shaken;

they will be remembered forever.

**7** They will have no fear of bad news;

their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

**8** Their hearts are secure, they will have no fear...





Peace is not an ordered life where  
unpredictability leads to fear.

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Peace is not an ordered life where  
unpredictability leads to fear.

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Peace is the confident response to  
God's call of service.

**Philippians 4:** 12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the **secret of being content** in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. 13 **I can do all this through him who gives me strength.**

**Philippians 1: 12** Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that **what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel.** **13** As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that **I am in chains for Christ.**

Have Thine own way Lord

Have Thine own way

Thou art the potter I am the clay

Mold me and make me after Thy will

While I am waiting yielded and still



Intimacy leads to fruitfulness

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not the other way around.





I believe that we are not real social workers. We may be doing social work in the eyes of the people, but we are really contemplatives in the heart of the world. M.T.

**John 15: 8** This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

To pray is to be led by the hand to

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broken people, broken places, and  
broken parts within you.



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