Your Relationship With The Holy Spirit Lesson 3

# Being Led By The Holy Spirit

***Rom.8:14 says,*** *“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.”*

# I. How does God lead us? John 16:13 *“The Spirit of Truth will guide you into all truth”*

# Let’s start with the ‘means’ - Read 1 Cor.2:9-12

1. **Word of God** – **2 Tim.3:16-17** *“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”*

**Look at the story of Elijah in the cave – Read 1 Kings 19:1-18**

1. **(vs.6-8)** If you won’t let the Holy Spirit **feed** you, it’s difficult for the Holy Spirit to **lead** you!

**Comment on the following points:** God wants to feed you, so you can recognize His voice to lead you! It’s hard to hear His voice if you are unfamiliar with His word!

1. **(vs.11-12)** God wants you to get so familiar with the Holy Spirit, you can recognize His voice even in the midst of problems and distractions.

The following are other means God uses to communicate with us, but they will **NEVER** contradict the Word of God! If they do, they are not of God!

1. **Prayer & Fasting** – **Acts 13:2** God speaks to the church leaders to separate Barnabas & Saul
2. **Prophecy** – **Acts 21:10-11** Agabus prophesies that Paul will be persecuted in Jerusalem
3. **Dreams** – **Mt.2:13** An Angel appears to Joseph in a dream to take his family to Egypt
4. **Visions** – **Acts 16:9-10** Paulhas a vision of a Macedonian man saying, “Come help us”.
5. **Audible Voice** – **Acts 10:13-15** Peter hears God tell him to eat the unclean animals
6. **Angelic visitation** – **Acts 5:19-20** An angel leads the apostles out of prison
7. **Inner witness** – **Rom.8:16** The most common way the Holy Spirit speaks to us

# II. There are three main sources of communication:

# a). Man’s voice:

1. Wants to cater to self – Selfish
2. Usually opposes the Word of God **or** takes scripture out of context, ex. “God wants me happy”
3. Pays no regard to God’s timing – God’s will and God’s timing always work together.
4. Changes from day to day - Inconsistent
5. Has different options - God only has plan A
6. Easily forgotten after a few days - God’s will is the same next week.

# b). Satan’s voice:

1. It questions the Word of God, opposes it or twists it. “Has God said…” Gen.3:1-5
2. It’s pushy & impulsive – (Jesus leads, the devil pushes)
3. It’s negative, critical, condemning, accusing
4. It produces fear & confusion
5. It plays off the desires of our flesh – ie. temptation
6. It’s often louder when we are tired physically and mentally, or weak spiritually
7. He will try to influence other people to take you in the wrong direction

# c). God’s voice: (Read the following passages)

1. **John 14:26; John 16:13; John 18:37** - Always aligns with scripture
   * If the Word doesn’t feed you, it’s hard for the Holy Spirit to lead you!
2. **Col.3:15; Rom.14:17** – Is peaceful – Follow the peace of God
   * Jesus said in **John 14:27**, *"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”*
   * The word ‘rule’ in **Col.3:15** means to “umpire” or determine
   * Discuss the difference between having a Peace vs. having a ‘check’ in your spirit

1. **1 Cor.14:33** –Is not confusing or convoluted

* If it’s God, it’s orderly and understandable! If it’s not, it’s not God.

1. **Rom.10:17; 2 Tim.1:7; Mt.26:41** – Produces confidence, not fear

* Our flesh might be afraid to take the step of faith, but our spirit is willing.

1. **Heb.13:8; Mal.3:6;** **Rom.11:29** – Is consistent over time

* If He said it today, He’ll say it next week or next month

1. **Is.28:10** – Reveals His plans a step at a time
   * God will reveal the next step after we obey the first step.

# III. Having ears to hear

Jesus said in **Mt 11:15**, *"He who has* ***ears******to******hear****, let him hear!*

**2.** **Read Heb.3:7-19** and pick out the things we must avoid in order to hear the Holy Spirit better?