

HOW TO DETERMINE GOD'S LEADING

40 Day in the Word – Part 5

October 5, 2014

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*“Dearly loved friends, don’t always believe everything you hear just because someone says it is a message from God: test it first to see if it really is. For there are many false teachers around,”
(1 John 4:1, The Living Bible)*

From myself?	Pr. 14:12
From God?	Job 33:14
From Satan?	2 Cor. 11:14

SEVEN WAYS TO TEST AN IMPRESSION

1. DOES IT AGREE WITH THE BIBLE?

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.” (Luke 21:33, GNB)

“Let God’s curse fall on anyone, including us or even an angel from heaven, who preaches a different kind of Good News than the one we preached to you.” (Galatians 1:8, NLT)

2. DOES IT MAKE ME MORE LIKE JESUS?

“In your lives you must think and act like Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 2:5, NCV)

“But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts...Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic...But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.” (James 3:14–17, NIV)

3. DOES MY SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY CONFIRM IT?

“Among the prophets and teachers of the church at Antioch of Syria were Barnabas, Simeon (called “the black man”), Lucius (from Cyrene), Manaen (the childhood companion of King Herod Antipas), and Saul. One day as these men were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Dedicate Barnabas and Saul for the special work to which I have called them.” So after more fasting and prayer, the men laid their hands on them and sent them on their way.” (Acts 13:1–3, NLT)

“...the wisdom of the righteous can save you.” (Proverbs 11:9, GNB)

4. IS IT CONSISTENT WITH HOW GOD S.H.A.P.E.d ME?

“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” (Ephesians 2:10, NIV)

“God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well...” (Romans 12:6a, The Living Bible)

5. DOES IT CONCERN MY RESPONSIBILITY?

“...We shall all be judged one day, not by each other’s standards or even our own, but by the standard of Christ...It is to God alone that we have to answer for our actions.” (Romans 14:10,12, Phillips)

6. IS IT CONVICTING RATHER THAN CONDEMNING?

“But if we confess our sins to him, he can be depended on to forgive us and to cleanse us from every wrong.” (1 John 1:9a, The Living Bible)

“...Satan accused our people in the presence of God day and night. Now he has been thrown out!” (Revelation 12:10, CEV)

The differences between...

CONVICTION	CONDEMNATION
from God	from Satan
"you've sinned"	"you're worthless"

7. DO I SENSE GOD’S PEACE ABOUT IT?

“When we worship the right way, God doesn’t stir us up into confusion; he brings us into harmony. This goes for all the churches—no exceptions.” (1 Corinthians 14:33, The Message)

“And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts.” (Colossians 3:15a, NLT)

Next steps

Super C.L.A.S.S. Sunday TODAY!!!

New Testament Overview 10/19

Baptism 10/12