

- I. Review of Previous Sessions
  - A. The Significance of the Holy Spirit
  - B. The Role of the Holy Spirit in the Believer
  - C. A Different Spirit with You
  - D. The Word and Spirit Connection
  - E. How the Spirit Works

# F. The Supply of the Spirit

We may access the Supply of the Spirit through the God's Word, prayer, and especially by staying close to God.

## II. How to be led by the Spirit.

## A. Scriptures for consideration.

1. <u>Romans 8:14 (NKJV)</u> – For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

**Romans 8:14 (AMP)** – For all who are allowing themselves to be led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

- a. Led = to lead by laying hold of, to bring to a point of destination.
  To lead by accompanying to a place
  To guide or direct
  To move or to influence.
- b. Sons of God =

Can simply mean the offspring of one. Can refer to the descendent of one. <u>In this context</u> – those who revere God as their father, those who in character and life resemble God, those who are governed by the Spirit of God. Those led by the Spirt are the MARTURE/MATURING sons of God.



**Pastor's Note:** Those who are being influenced, moved, or directed by the Spirit being brought forth to a specific place or position are the mature/maturing sons of God, following Him closely and becoming more like him daily.

The mark of maturity is discovered in your ability to be led!

 <u>Galatians 5:25 (NKJV)</u> – If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

**Galatians 5:25 (NIV)** – Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

**Galatians 5:25 (NASB)** – If we live by the Spirit, let's follow the Spirit as well.

<u>Galatians 5:25 (ISV)</u> – Since we live by the Spirit, by the Spirit let us also be guided.

**Walk = gr =** to proceed in a row as the march of a soldier, go in order. Allow the Spirit to direct one's life – marching in order to follow His directives.

3. Walking in the Spirit is being led by the Spirit. When we walk in the Spirit, we will not be led by the flesh.

**Galatians 5:16 (NKJV)** – I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

<u>Galatians 5:16 (GWT)</u> – Let me explain further. Live your life as your spiritual nature directs you. Then you will never follow through on what your corrupt nature wants.

**Galatians 5:16 (YLT)** – And I say: In the Spirit walk ye, and the desire of the flesh ye may not complete.



**Pastor's Note:** The wording of most translations leaves the conclusion that the desire of the flesh only includes things relating to sins of the flesh. However, the message is much more than this. When we walk in the Spirit, we will not follow the flesh! This means, we do not miss God's will by doing our own will. This means that we do not give into the soulish realm or permissive will of God and miss His perfect will for our lives.

- B. Basics in being led.
  - 1. Practice Hearing.
    - a. <u>**Revelation 2:29 (NKJV)**</u> He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

**Revelation 2:29 (NLT)** – Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches. **Pastor's Note:** We know that everyone had natural ears, but apparently this was not the meaning here. Everyone who would naturally hear the letter, would not have spiritual ears to hear. The instruction here is TO HEAR!

- b. The first step to being led by the Spirit is to develop in hearing. We will never be led by the Spirit if we do not know how to hear from the Spirit.
- c. Ask the Lord to help you hear His voice clearly.
   John 10:27 (NKJV) My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.

## **Other Versions**:

My Sheep listen to my voice.

My Sheep know my voice.

My Sheep recognize my voice.

- d. The Spirit speaks through the inward witness.
  - The inward witness may use the Word of God to lead us.
  - The inward witness may be a simple inward leading. Inward leadings must always align with the Word.
  - Pay attention to the simple leadings/instructions that He gives. Often people are attempting to hear some huge revelation. The Lord teaches us through simple instructions. Listening to the



simple things that He says will move you toward the bigger instructions for your life.

- The best way to develop in hearing the Lord's voice is to practice hearing the small still voice of the Spirit.
- The more time you spend with the Lord in worship, the Word and prayer, the more you will be tuned into His leadings. It will become easier to recognize His voice.
- His voice will always work for our good. He will not condemn or crush our spirit. Even in correction, He is lovingly leading us forward to correct areas that are holding us back. His voice will always lead you to Him never away from Him.

## 2. Practice Obedience.

Once we begin to hear the voice of the Lord it is important that we become obedient to the things He says to us. Refusal to obey will silence His voice for future directions.

a. Be quick to obey, but not in haste.

While we need to quickly give heed to what God tells us to do, we also need to take necessary time to be assured we are following *His voice*.

<u>**1 John 4:1 (NKJV)**</u> – Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

**Pastor's Note:** In this context it is speaking primarily of deception through the spirits working in false prophets. However, many have been deceived by a false inner voice that led them astray. Just as we need to prove the spirit leading ministers, we need to prove the spirit that is speaking to us through the inner voice.

- b. Test the voice.
  - A word/impression from the Lord will not be one that puts you under stress or pressure. *His voice is gentle and persuasive, free from pressure. Satan's voice is loud and always demanding an immediate response.*
  - Direction from the Lord is not self-promoting.



- Instruction from the Lord is not a fleeting thought, but one that abides.
- A word from the Lord is not confusing. *God is not the author of confusion. unrest and instability*
- A word from the Lord should have some confirmation from leadership, specifically your pastor.
- c. Ask the Lord for discernment to accurately hear what is being said to you.

Solomon

<u>**1 Kings 3:9 (NIV)**</u> – "So, give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?"

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