



BEING LED BY THE

Spirit of God



'For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.' Romans 8:14

The Bible tells us that it's possible for the Spirit of God to lead us and in fact identifies this as an attribute of the sons of God. What does it mean to be led by the Spirit of God and why should this be important to us? How can we be led by the Spirit and in what ways can we hamper what the Holy Spirit is trying to do in our lives?

We will look at these in more detail in this study. May God give us the grace to cooperate fully with the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Stay connected.



Day 1

Led by the Spirit

'The Spirit Himself testifies and confirms together with our spirit [assuring us] that we [believers] are children of God.' Romans 8:16 AMP

You can't have a leader without a follower, which means that if we are to be led by the Holy Spirit, we must be willing to follow Him wherever He may lead us. It means that we must be willing to set aside our personal desires etc and follow His instructions. Being led isn't a passive action, it's something we have to be intentional about as we need to stay connected to the one that's leading us in order to know what we should do.

'Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls.' Matthew 11:29 NLT

The Holy Spirit is our teacher and our guide, He knows all things and is the only one that can successfully lead us in the ways that align with God's plan for our lives. But we have to keep company with Him for that to happen. We have to spend time with Him to understand His promptings and nudges. There's also an intentionality required on our part to yield to His way especially as it may not be what we may feel like doing. We may have our own agenda which may conflict with what the Holy Spirit wants to do in us so we must consciously set our will aside so He has the freedom to move in our lives.

'...Yet I want your will to be done, not mine.' Luke 22:42

'But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.' Galatians 5:18

While in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus prayed this consistently and I believe He would have prayed this throughout His earthly ministry. By the help of the Holy Spirit, we can take a cue from Jesus and ask for the grace to deliberately set our will aside so that His will can be done. We need the Holy Spirit's leading so we do not try and strive in our natural strength and place undue burdens on ourselves.

Prayer: Lord help me be willing to follow you wherever you may lead.



Day 2

Divine Direction by the Word

'Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," Whenever you turn to the right hand or whenever you turn to the left.' Isaiah 30:21

When we yield to the Holy Spirit's leading, we have an assurance that we will receive divine direction. From the scripture above, the Bible tells us that we will hear the Holy Spirit giving us direction on where to go, what to do as we move through our daily lives. But it's important to understand that the 'ears' referred to here are not physical ears but spiritual ears. How do we 'hear'?

'All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.' 2 Timothy 3:16-17 NLT

The primary way we can hear is through the word of God. The Holy Spirit can't lead you effectively through life if your Bible is closed. You have to read, study and meditate on the word because whatever direction the Holy Spirit leads you will always align with God's word even if your specific situation isn't explicitly stated there. One thing we can be assured of is that the leading of the Holy Spirit will never contradict the word of God.

'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.' John 1:1

'For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires ' Hebrews 4:12

As we spend time in the word, the Holy Spirit begins to point out things in our hearts that don't align with the character of Jesus and as we yield to His processes, we become transformed to be more like Christ who is our example of living a life led by the Holy Spirit. Everything Jesus did during His earthly ministry was in perfect alignment with God's word, which is why He would often refer to the scripture. "it is written...". If Jesus needed to study the scripture and refer to it as a guide for life, we certainly need to do the same.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, let the desire to study and meditate upon your word grow in me daily.



Day 3

Divine Direction by the Inner Witness

'the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.' John 14:17

When we receive the gift of salvation, there is a spiritual rebirth that takes place – the old sinful spirit is taken away and a new spirit is birthed in the believer. While a believer's spirit may be new, the body and mind are the same at the point of accepting the gift of salvation. This is why it's the rebirthed spirit that the Holy Spirit engages as He takes up residence in a believer.

'The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God' Romans 8:16

The Holy Spirit's engaging our spirit is what is often called the 'inner witness' – a certain knowing that you have about something even if you can't fully articulate how or why you know it. This is why when you're about to take a step in a direction you may feel an uneasiness internally even when everything looks good externally. Or conversely, you feel encouraged and at peace to do something that doesn't seem to make sense to anyone else. The extent to which our conscience is 'alive' is the extent to which we can discern and respond to the promptings of the Spirit.

The spirit (conscience) of man is the lamp of the Lord, Searching and examining all the innermost parts of his being. Proverbs 20:27 AMP

'Cling to your faith in Christ, and keep your conscience clear. For some people have deliberately violated their consciences; as a result, their faith has been shipwrecked.' 1 Timothy 1:19 NLT

Sin, prayerlessness deaden our conscience and dulls the voice of the Holy Spirit so even though He may be speaking, we may not be picking up the promptings. Or we could be picking it up and still choose to ignore because we've already made up our minds about what we want to do. We have a role to play in keeping our conscience clear through prayer and doing what we have studied or meditated on in the Bible. This makes it easier for us to hear and respond accurately to the voice of the inner witness and avoid unnecessary pitfalls.

Prayer: Lord help me keep a clear conscience



Day 4

The Audible/Authoritative Voice

'Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" ... And the men who journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice but seeing no one.' Acts 9:4,7

When we talk about hearing the voice of God, we may think of the authoritative voice – the voice that is so loud we can hear it audibly with our ears and sometimes others can hear it also. While there are examples of this in the Bible and some may experience this, it's important that we don't fall into the error of thinking that we haven't hear from God until we hear His audible voice. If we try and box the Holy Spirit's guidance into the spectacular, we may inadvertently create an avenue for the devil to deceive us.

'Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord...and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces ... but the Lord was not in the wind... but the Lord was not in the earthquake... but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice. So it was, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave...' I Kings 19:11-13

It's the Lord's prerogative to choose how He wants to communicate with us and there are indeed many ways He can. But one thing we can learn from Elijah's experience on the mountain is that God's presence may not be in the dramatic and spectacular.

'... Then a voice came from heaven, saying, "I have both glorified it and will glorify it again." Therefore the people who stood by and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to Him." Jesus answered and said, "This voice did not come because of Me, but for your sake.' John 12:28-30

Jesus didn't need to hear the authoritative voice, rather in the scripture above He said the voice was for the sake of others and not for Him as Jesus had learned to be in tune with Holy Spirit's leading on a daily basis. As we trust the Holy Spirit to lead us daily in all avenues of our lives, our focus should be more on being led by the Word of God and developing our ability to listen to the inner witness through prayer and a clear conscience. These are also supernatural, even if they may not be spectacular.

Prayer: Lord, help me learn to follow your leading through the inner witness and your word.



Day 5

Leading in Destiny

'I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you [who are willing to learn] with My eye upon you.' Psalms 32:8 AMP

The Holy Spirit wants to teach us and guide us through every aspect of life on a daily basis and in every area – our walk with Him, our relationships, our children, our businesses, you name it the Holy Spirit wants to guide us in that area. But He won't force His leading on us, there has to be a willingness on our part to listen and respond as well.

'O Lord, I know that the path of [life of] a man is not in himself; It is not within [the limited ability of] man [even one at his best] to choose and direct his steps [in life].' Jeremiah 10:23 AMP

'Then I said, 'Behold, I have come— In the volume of the book it is written of Me— to do Your will, O God.' Hebrews 10:7

'And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat.' Luke 22:31

We aren't able to accurately direct our steps since there's so much we really don't know, which is what Jeremiah is referring to on the scripture above. If we don't have the ability to direct ourselves, then whose direction do we depend on? One option is to follow the direction of the devil and do things as the world does. The devil's agenda may not necessarily be an outright attack on a believer's health, etc. All he needs to do is ensure the believer is derailed from God's plan.

With His earthly ministry Jesus demonstrates that it is possible to live a life following God's path and what has been written concerning each of us in the books in heaven. God has a clear plan for each of us which we can choose to align with. As we align we are dependent on the counsel of the Holy Spirit on a daily basis to keep us on the path that God has designed for us, in spite of whatever challenges we may face on the way.

Prayer: Lord I am willing to learn, instruct me and teach me the way I should go.



Day 6

Leading in Business

'Thus says the Lord , your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the Lord your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you by the way you should go.'" Isaiah 48:17

The Holy Spirit is available to lead us in our business. Remember the Holy Spirit knows all things, so he knows the best path for you to take in getting into and running a successful business venture. Just because something looks or sounds good now does not mean that will always be the case and vice versa.

'I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions.'" Proverbs 8:12

The Holy Spirit knows what business ideas will thrive in the years to come, even if it doesn't look popular now and the opposite is also true. We should certainly do our due diligence and the necessary market analysis and put in place appropriate structures for our businesses, but we shouldn't exclude the importance of the spiritual factor. The Holy Spirit wants to guide us so we're accurate in every aspect of our business, from concept to execution and growth.

'And Saul also went home to Gibeah; and there went with him a band of men, whose hearts God had touched.'" 1 Samuel 10:26

"See, I have called by name Bezalel ... and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, and I, indeed I, have appointed with him Aholiab ... and I have put wisdom in the hearts of all the gifted artisans, that they may make all that I have commanded you.'" Exodus 31:2-3,6

No matter how wonderful your business idea or proposition may be, every business needs good staff to thrive – have you prayed for the right team members for your business? If you partner with the Holy Spirit in your business, He will show you those he has equipped to help your business excel. This doesn't mean you don't need to equip and train your team, but you'll do so according to the Holy Spirit's leading.

Prayer: Holy Spirit I bring my business before you, please teach me how to partner with you in every aspect.



Day 7

Guidance in Career

'Also He said to them, "Is a lamp brought to be put under a basket or under a bed? Is it not to be set on a lampstand?" Mark 4:21

We need the Holy Spirit to bring us into favour with our boss, colleagues and key decision makers. If not we will resort to trying to engineer things on our own. When we do so, we're sending the Holy Spirit a message that we don't need His help and He won't impose Himself on us.

'You have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you and I have appointed and placed and purposefully planted you, so that you would go and bear fruit and keep on bearing, and that your fruit will remain and be lasting, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name [as My representative] He may give to you.' John 15:16

We see the sheer intentionality of God in the verse above, so it's unlikely He will place you somewhere just so you will be buried in obscurity. Yes, there will be times of pruning for character development, but the ultimate goal is for you to shine and accurately represent Jesus in your career. Your light is meant to shine brightly and point others to Jesus.

'You are the light of [Christ to] the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden...' Matthew 5:14

We need to be diligent in our place of work by the help of the Holy Spirit, remembering that we're working for God and not for people. When we have that perspective, we will be less prone to acts of self-promotion or feel the need to compete with others. The Holy Spirit will guide you in all area of learning and as you are consistent in diligence, He can amplify your work and make you excel beyond your peers.

Prayer: Lord, I yield my career over to you. Guide me in my work, my attitude and output. Help me remember that I am accountable firstly to you in all that I do and please help me represent you properly in my place of work.



Day 8

Leading in Parenting

'All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children.' Isaiah 54:13

Our children are not left out of the Holy Spirit's leading. He has promised to teach our children, guaranteeing them great peace. There are many methods the Lord can deploy to teach our children, let's look at just a few.

'Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.' Proverbs 22:6

When the Lord leads us and we walk in His ways, we set a living example for our children to follow. Children learn by emulation not necessarily by dictate – they observe and copy what we do not what we say. As parents (biological or otherwise) we have the opportunity and responsibility to set the template for the future generations to follow. None of us is perfect and we learn everyday, but the Lord will help us as we pursue a close walk with Him. As our children see us, we're planting seeds that the Holy Spirit can water and grow.

'[I always pray] that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may grant you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation [that gives you a deep and personal and intimate insight] into the true knowledge of Him...' Ephesians 1:17

Encouraging our children to seek God for themselves is one of the best things we can do for them. God has no grandchildren; He has put in us all the desire to have a direct relationship with Him. The same way we teach children manners and ensure they're diligent with school-work etc we must also be intentional about their spiritual development and growth.

As much as we do things in the natural, let's not miss the first part of the Ephesians 1:17, it starts with persistent, unrelenting prayer for our children. That they will have a walk with God from their youth so the Holy Spirit can align their lives according to God's plan from an early age.

Prayer: Lord please align the life of my child(ren) according to your divine plan. Where mistakes have been made, have mercy and bring realignment. Teach them Lord as only you can.



Day 9

Guidance in Service

'While they were serving the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul (Paul) for the work to which I have called them." ' Acts 13:2

Are you wondering what you can do for the Lord? The Holy Spirit already has full knowledge of your assignment. Why not ask Him to reveal it to you? Even if you haven't heard anything from Him, start where you are and do what you can for the kingdom.

'Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to use them accordingly: if [someone has the gift of] prophecy, [let him speak a new message from God to His people] in proportion to the faith possessed; if service, in the act of serving; or he who teaches, in the act of teaching; or he who encourages, in the act of encouragement; he who gives, with generosity; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy [in caring for others], with cheerfulness.' Romans 12:6-8

As you start where you are, the Holy Spirit will begin to align your steps in the direction of what you have been called to do. He takes us step by step and prepares us for our assignment, so we're not overwhelmed or unprepared. Remember we serve a loving God who wants us to excel in every area, so He won't push us into something we're not yet ready for. But believe me when I say where you are right now is good enough to start.

'But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.' Matthew 6:33

'But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.' Hebrews 11:6

Our Father in heaven is loving and generous, He not only guides us into the assignment He has for us, He also promises to add to us all we need when we seek His kingdom first and reward us as we diligently seek Him.

Prayer: Thank you Lord for the opportunity to serve in your kingdom. Holy Spirit please lead me in the work you have assigned for me. I ask for grace to serve in a manner that pleases and bring glory to your Name.



Day 10

Guidance in Alertness

'Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is.' Mark 13:33

Jesus gave a clear warning to His disciples: Watch and Pray. This seems simple enough so you may wonder why we need leading to do this. Unfortunately, as believers we don't necessarily combine the two effectively and consistently, so we need the Holy Spirit to guide us.

'of the sons of Issachar who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do...' I Chronicles 12:32

'Blessed are those servants whom the master, when he comes, will find watching....' Luke 12:37

'So be on your guard, not asleep like the others. Stay alert and be clearheaded.' 1 Thessalonians 5:6

Why does the Bible emphasise alertness/watchfulness so strongly? Believers aren't meant to be taken unawares by the things happening around us. As the Holy Spirit guides us, He brings certain things to our attention/awareness and also instructs us on how to handle them in the place of prayer. What made the sons of Issachar stand out was the fact that they had two key things: understanding as well as knowledge of what to do.

They couldn't possibly have understanding if they weren't already watching, neither would they have received knowledge if they weren't praying. If we're not watching we run the risk of missing opportunities, misreading season of our lives and responding to life in error. When we allow the Holy Spirit to lead us consistently, we start becoming more sensitive to promptings and grow in understanding of how to navigate life's terrains.

'If they had stood before me and listened to me, they would have spoken my words...' Jeremiah 23:22

We combine watchfulness with prayer so we don't end up observers in life – receiving prompts but doing nothing about them. It is also dangerous to pray without watching because we could end up praying amiss and asking God to endorse our own plans rather than His. The Holy Spirit alone knows what we really should be praying about at any point in time.

Prayer: Dear Lord please give me the grace to consistently watch and pray, remove any obstacles to my spiritual alertness and prayer life.



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