

Spiritual Accuracy

Navigating Life By the Power of the Holy
Spirit



'I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.'
Psalms 32:8

One of the things that Jesus clearly illustrated by during His earthly ministry was impeccable timing – He was always at the right place at the right time. And everything He did was in line with what the Father expected of Him at the time. This didn't happen by chance and it wasn't just because He's the son of God. There's an enablement we have as believers through the power of the Holy Spirit to walk in accuracy – both physically and spiritually.

We recognize that what is unseen is more potent than what is seen (2 Corinthians 4:18), and the same way there are times, seasons, opportunities etc. in the natural these also exist in the spiritual. It's one thing to be aware of this, and another to walk accurately with full understanding of how to navigate accurately with this knowledge.

This series we're looking at how to be spiritually accurate by the power of the Holy Spirit. Our prayer is that the Lord will use this to open our eyes and ears and sharpen our accuracy so our lives will reflect what heaven expects of us per time.

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Day 1

Purpose, Pedigree, Platform (1)

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations.” Jeremiah 1:5

We all have a God-given purpose hard-coded into our spirits before arriving on this side of eternity. Yet many of us may be functioning as round pegs in square holes because we haven't tapped into what that purpose really is, especially if we focus on the expectations of family, society and even what we place on ourselves without ever checking with God what He really expects.

'These are the words of the Teacher, King David's son, who ruled in Jerusalem.'
Ecclesiastes 1:1 NLT

In the verse above Solomon highlighted three critical areas in everyone's lives – purpose, pedigree and platform. Solomon's purpose was to be a teacher, evident in the wisdom he displayed as a leader and his writings in the Bible. His pedigree (background, experiences, training, etc.) was the son of King David, which he utilized in being effective at his platform – ruling in Jerusalem. Sadly, without our spiritual antennae being sharpened, we will not be able to connect the dots across the three and may even assume wrongly what we're really here to do as far as the Lord's expectations are concerned.

Solomon's purpose was a teacher and the platform of a king gave him considerable influence over thousands of people. Likewise, there are many teachers whose platforms are their families, medicine, banking and so on. Let's not confuse purpose with platform and wrongly tie our identity to what we do. God connects our peace of mind, grace, divine relationships to our purpose, so when out of alignment it's just a matter of time before an inner dissatisfaction sets in which no amount of addiction, money, fame, etc. can remove.

So what do we do if our inner senses are signaling that we've missed it at some point? We have to go back in humility to the One who created the plan in the first place and genuinely ask Him for help.

Prayer: Lord, I ask that you give me complete knowledge of your will and spiritual wisdom and understanding (Col 1:9), show me your plan for me, who you created me to be. And wherever I may have missed it Lord I ask for re-alignment.



Day 2

Purpose, Pedigree, Platform (1)

'And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings' Acts 17:26

It's important we understand that God isn't random in any way – He's very precise not only in what He would have us do but how and where we are to function per time, so in God's divine plan, we are designed for and assigned to different environments. Jeremiah for instance was ordained by God to be a prophet to the nations, meanwhile there are other prophets in the Bible whose assignments were to specific communities. Yet they all fulfilled their purpose as prophets.

'Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives.' Galatians 5:25

God's plans are very extensive, detailed and designed to map our steps from birth to death. Which means there's no area left un-addressed. The fact that we may start off well and see others in our areas of calling doing things doesn't mean we should follow them. Our primary goal should always be to seek God first and ensure we are still in alignment with His plan. This can be particularly tricky when those around us seem to be doing well materially and as such we start emulating them and forming our own plans rather than pursuing God.

Looking back at Solomon's life, he started to miss it when he took his eyes off God and started following his desires and acquiring women of various beliefs which ultimately drew him away from God. Our desires can be very strong and if we don't continuously keep walking in step with the Holy Spirit our primary priority, we may find ourselves justifying our wrong actions, not knowing like Samson when the Holy Spirit leaves us.

Prayer: Lord I recognize that You have a divine plan that covers every single aspect of my life. I ask that you show me per time how to stay connected to you so I don't veer off onto my own agenda. I ask for mercy for the times I've missed it and also for re-alignment Lord. I ask for the grace to keep my eyes fixed on you so I can hear you clearly when you instruct me in the way that I should go.

Day 3

The Right Prayer

'And even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure.' James 4:3 NLT

It is impossible to know God's mind for us outside of prayer. Yet it's possible to spend ages in prayer and still miss the mark. How does this happen? James tells us that it can happen if we're praying for what we think we need rather than God's plan for us. Because we as humans are limited in what we know, it's very possible that what we want may not actually be what we need at that point in time. How do we know how to hit the mark – by asking the Holy Spirit: what should I pray?

'No one can know a person's thoughts except that person's own spirit, and no one can know God's thoughts except God's own Spirit. And we have received God's Spirit (not the world's spirit), so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us.' 1 Corinthians 2:11-12 NLT

'But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.' John 16:13

Assumption is very dangerous when it comes to navigating life – we don't know what we don't know. And even what we think we know is just a fraction of the bigger picture. Thankfully the Lord in His mercy has given believers the gift of the Holy Spirit who is available to guide us into ALL truth. There's nothing we may be going through that He doesn't already have a solution for. There's nothing we're planning that He doesn't already know what God says about the issue.

The point for us to ponder is this: Do we want a life built according to our own plan, or a life built according to God's plan for us? If it's the latter then there's no way we can accurately achieve this without consistently asking the Holy Spirit, "What should I pray concerning this area?" This calls for humility on our part and a willingness to do what the Holy Spirit says we should do. Especially when what we need won't necessarily feel good.

Prayer: Dear Holy Spirit, I realize that I don't really know what to pray for, or even how to pray. Please help me.



Day 4

Responding to Instructions

'For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little.' Isaiah 28:10

Being accurate with God means we have to be very attentive to every instruction we get from Him. Much as we may want Him to, the Lord in His wisdom doesn't always give us the entire picture at a go. Rather He may show us a bit at a time as He leads us step by step, helping us grow in trust and obedience.

"Don't look for shortcuts to God. The market is flooded with surefire, easygoing formulas for a successful life that can be practiced in your spare time. Don't fall for that stuff, even though crowds of people do. The way to life—to God!—is vigorous and requires total attention.' Matthew 7:13-14 MSG

There are no overnight successes with God. Observe everyone He developed in the Bible and you will see a common pattern in that He uses a system of building their character over time first before placing them in positions of significance. Anyone close to God had a consistent walk with Him which helped them discern His thoughts per time. It's that consistency, knowing His thoughts and walking in that knowledge that keeps us accurate. because it's important to hear not just what God said, but what He is saying right now.

'Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.' Proverbs 3:5-6

The fastest way to miss God's plan is to assume we already know what He's going to do so there's no need to connect with Him on the matter. When we do this, we automatically start directing our own paths. When He takes us through a process, we already know that we won't get to the next level of His plan for us if we look to cut corners or take short cuts. We need the Holy Spirit to give us the patience and endurance needed to navigate accurately.

Prayer: Lord I know you will lead me along the best path for my life, but honestly there are times I want to shorten that journey. Help me to put my full trust in you and to obey you completely and quickly so I don't run into error by creating my own path.

Day 5

Learning Stillness

'Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him...' Psalms 37:7

Have you ever tried sharing directions with someone who is very distracted while you're speaking? That person may only pick a little of what you said, if anything at all and may not even understand what was said because what was pieced together will be very disjointed. That's how it can be when the Lord is trying to instruct us. Busyness can fill our lives with a lot of 'noise' which if left unchecked may drown out whatever the Lord is saying. While He may be speaking and giving life transforming instructions and guidance, we can't hear clearly if at all. And if we can't hear Him, there's no way we can be accurate as we'd just be doing guess work.

'But I have calmed and quieted myself...' Psalms 131:2

'When Moses went up on the mountain ... six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the Lord called to Moses from within the cloud.' Exodus 24:15-16

'When the Lord finished speaking with Moses on Mount Sinai, he gave him the two stone tablets inscribed with the terms of the covenant, written by the finger of God.' Exodus 31:18

When Moses went up the mountain, the Lord didn't speak until day 7, so Moses definitely would have had to be still, not rushing or fretting about the silence. It would have taken time to get to this stage and over the years Moses must have built up capacity in stillness and giving God time. Weighty things are not found in short bursts of attention or activity. When the Lord started speaking to Moses, from day 7 onwards He shared the intricate details of the temple to be built, the processes, His plans and the ten commandments.

One of the best things we can do for our spiritual accuracy is to learn to give God time. If we really want deep and weighty instructions from God, we have to learn to give Him time. Consistently dedicating a time in the day where we can be quiet, unrushed. No time spent with God is ever wasted and consistency with this sharpens our discernment and capacity for accuracy. Why not commit to a time today and ask for grace to be consistent with it?

Prayer: Lord, help me to be consistent in spending dedicated time with You.



Day 6

Strategic Hindsight

'When I saw it, I considered it well; I looked on it and received instruction' Proverbs 24:32

Sometimes we are so focused on moving forward we neglect the practice of strategic hindsight which helps us take stock of what has happened and is happening, looking at the different things that keep leading us to the same outcome. As we prayerfully reflect on the past, asking the Holy Spirit to open our eyes to the root cause then we can see where exactly things may have gone wrong that we need to stop; or things that have gone right that we need to continue.

'The wise are cautious and avoid danger; fools plunge ahead with reckless confidence.'
Proverbs 14:16

'Look beneath the surface so you can judge correctly.'" John 7:24

Being cautious means we recognize that life is spiritual and so everything we do must be understood from the realm of the spirit – looking beyond the surface. We won't be able to notice significant patterns if we just keep plunging ahead daily and taking things superficially. We have access to the Holy Spirit who knows all things, and He alone can take us to the foundation of things that need to be resolved – if we take the time to let Him. Everything has an origin and when we reflect upon the outcomes we're seeing in line with the foundation we've laid then we can start accurately dissecting the way forward.

'Of the tribe of Issachar, men who understood the times, with knowledge of what Israel should do...' 1 Chronicles 12:32

As we reflect we begin to see clearly the patterns we are reinforcing in our lives, businesses, careers, etc. But it's not enough to identify what needs to change. We also need to know what to do. The Bible tells us about a group of men called the sons of Issachar who were gifted in understanding what was going on as well as what Israel ought to do. So our prayer is to be like these men interns of wisdom, understanding and capacity to execute successfully.

Prayer: Lord thank you for showing me how to identify patterns in my life. For every pattern you reveal to me, Lord please give me wisdom to accurately identify the foundation, understanding of what needs to change and the capacity to make the changes necessary.



Day 7

Spiritual Foresight

“Then I said, “Behold, I come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.” Psalms 40:7

Spiritual foresight is being able to see ahead into the future and prepare adequately for it. Jesus knew what had been written in the books in heaven concerning Him so He spent His life fulfilling what was written – this is why He could confidently say “It is finished” on the cross. Likewise, we also have things written about us that we’re expected to fulfil (Jeremiah 1:5, 29:11). When we don’t live our lives according to God’s plan, we’re totally out of spiritual alignment.

“... I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood... but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter...” Galatians 1:16-18

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.” II Timothy 4:7

We don’t know what exactly transpired in Arabia and Damascus, but one of the things Paul must have spent time seriously seeking God for would have been direction, and he got it. We see from Paul’s writings that he had complete clarity on what his assignment was, so he knew how to move across seasons and also when his work was done. God is no respecter of persons so if He did it for one, He can do it for all. We don’t have to spend years in a desert like Paul, but there’s something for us to learn here about the connection between retreats and clarity. Taking time out to ask God specifically to show you what His plans and timetable for you helps clear up a lot of confusion and also helps distill distractions from genuine God given opportunities.

“... He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.” John 16:13 NKJV

One of the roles of the Holy Spirit is to tell us things to come so we can prepare and align accordingly. We need to tap into this so we don’t live life by guesswork. It’s possible for us to be like Paul: knowing what to do and hitting the mark accurately and consistently.

Prayer: Dear Holy Spirit, please show me the things to come in my life, help me to constantly align accordingly and live accurately.



Day 8

Blind Spots

'How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart? Cleanse me from these hidden faults.'
Psalms 19:12

One of the things we need to be wary of is our blind spots – those issues we don't even recognize that we have, the things we excuse in ourselves but may not be so accommodating with others on. The scary thing is that we need someone else to point out our blind spots to us for the very simple reason that we just don't know they're there.

'Examine me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and my mind.' Psalms 26:2

"The heart is deceitful above all things and it is extremely sick; who can understand it fully and know its secret motives?' Jeremiah 17:9

It's really difficult for us to honestly assess our blind spots ourselves because we may end up deceiving ourselves. Only the Holy Spirit who knows the true depth of our heart and can accurately distill the real motives behind our actions even when we can't. This means we need to regularly allow the holy Spirit to audit our hearts, not just to show us what's wrong, but to help us deal properly with whatever issues we may have. The first step to this audit is praying as David did in the psalm above and being open to letting the Holy Spirit change whatever needs to change in us, trusting Him to bring out the best in us.

'He (Amaziah) did right in the sight of the Lord, yet not wholeheartedly.' 2 Chronicles 25:2

The Lord is interested not just in what we do, but the motive and heart disposition with which we do it. Once the heart disposition isn't right, we've gone off course as far as the Lord is concerned and will remain off course until we recognize our error(s) and make the necessary adjustments.

Prayer: Holy Spirit please examine me, search my heart deeply and show me my blind spots. And as you show me I ask for your help and grace to change whatever needs to be changed.

Day 9

Right Mentorship

'Where there is no [wise, intelligent] guidance, the people fall [and go off course like a ship without a helm], But in the abundance of [wise and godly] counselors there is victory.'
Proverbs 11:14 AMP

We are not designed to walk alone and oftentimes the Holy Spirit will use wise counsel from others to bring guidance and direction on the areas we need help with. This means it's important we have wise and godly people in our circle who can give us advice whenever it's required – we can never know it all in one lifetime.

'As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.' Proverbs 27:17

'And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.' 2 Timothy 2:2

The Bible is full of illustrations of people who received direction from the right mentorship relationships. Be it Jethro advising Moses on how to handle judging Israel's issues (Exodus 18:13-26); Naomi guiding Ruth in a new environment; Deborah and Barak in developing battle strategies (Judges 4,5); Paul mentoring Timothy in his ministry (1, 2 Timothy). This tells us that there are people God has assigned to us to provide the required counsel at the right time. However, our eyes must be open to see them.

'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.' 1 John 4:1

We also have a responsibility to test the spirit functioning in those whose counsel we choose to take. Mentors shouldn't be chosen on face value, only the Holy Spirit knows the true state of our hearts. We need to pray that the Holy Spirit will connect our steps to the right counselors at the right time so we are assured that the guidance we receive will align with the Lord's plans for our lives.

Prayer: Lord please order my steps to the right counselors at the right time. Help me not to be distracted by outward appearances, but to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit to connect with the right mentors.



Day 10

God's Plans Not Ours

'For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.' Jeremiah 29:11

The Lord tells us clearly in the verse above that He has plans for us which include not just our present, but also our future. But guess what, we also have plans for ourselves. The question is whose plan will we choose to align with? The answer to this question is critical to how the rest of our lives will turn out.

'There is a path before each person that seems right, but it ends in death.' Proverbs 16:25
NLT

'And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul?' Matthew 16:26 NLT

Jesus recognizes that we have our own aspirations. However, He also lets us know that whatever it is that we do outside of His plan will ultimately cost us our soul. The plans may look good, the path may seem great, but if it's outside of God's plan it will lead to a loss of connection with Jesus which leads to spiritual death.

'Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you your heart's desires.' Psalms 37:4

We struggle when we believe what God wants for us may not be what we want for ourselves which may be the case if all our thoughts and aspirations focus only on this side of eternity. The interesting thing is the more we start doing things God's way, and open our hearts to Him, He puts His desires in our hearts and our desires start aligning with His. Our lives then become one of a union with Him, led by Him in every area of our lives.

It's easy to think maybe God doesn't really understand the pressures we're facing, but He does. Remember He's the one who made us and He knows us better than we know ourselves. So maybe you've been doing things your own way and yet you're not getting the satisfaction you thought you would, why not try it God's way?

Prayer: Lord, I've tried things my way and it's not working out like I thought it would. I want to try things your way instead. I come to you today with an open heart and ask that you help me realign my desires to yours and help me live life according to your plan not mine.



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