Learn How to Be Led by God's Spirit.

Life is a Journey

The Bible is a road map, and a compass God gives us a personal guidance counselor in the Holy Spirit.

How do we let God lead? ,Why is it so difficult?, We often look for the wrong thing from God. **Psalm 23:1-3** (cev)

The Lord is my shepherd, I have everything I need. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in the right paths for His name sake.

One proof or evidence you are in Gods Family is that He guides you

Romans 8:14 (cev)

"Only those people who are <u>led by God's Spirit are Gods children</u>".

How do I get God's guidance in my life? 5 things to stop doing.

1. If I want to be led by Gods Spirit, <u>I can't follow a culture that doesn't follow God</u> Exodus 23:2 (niv) "Do not follow the crowd in doing wrong".

Most people make decisions based on what is acceptable, Fitting in, pressures to conform.

Politically correct? Culturally correct?

You <mark>cannot</mark> conform to the culture and <mark>be just like everybody else</mark> and be led by the Holy Spirit.

Romans 12:2 (NLT) "Do not copy the behavior of the values of this world. Instead, let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will know what God wants you to do, and you will know how good and pleasing and perfect His will really is!"

God's will for your life is good, pleasing and perfect.

1 John 2:17 (NIV) "The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever".

If I want to be led by God's Spirit, <u>I can't follow friends who aren't led by God</u>. Peer Pressure,

1 John 3:7 (new century version) "Do not let anyone lead you the wrong way! Christ is righteous, so **be like Christ**, you must **do what is right**. And anyone who keeps on sinning is being led by the Devil."

Proverbs 13:20 (CEV) "Keep company with wise friends and you will become wise. But **if you** associate with fools, your life will suffer great hurt".

Psalm 14:1 (NIV) "The fool says in his heart, "There is no God. They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is none who does good.

YOU NEED TO CHOOSE YOUR FRIENDS WISELY!

Think about this: believers who go get counseling from nonbelievers

God wants you have friends that are nonbelievers however...

Jeremiah 15:19 (NIV) "...you will be my spokesman. You are to influence them but do not let them influence you!"

1 John 2:15 "Do not love the world or anything that belongs to the world! If you love the world, you cannot love the Father."

Two worlds

a. world, value system ---we are to hate

b. world, the people --- we are to love

3. If I want to be led by Gods Spirit, <u>I can't look to other sources besides God.</u>

Do you pray to God then read a horoscope? You cannot believe in both... Divination, or fortune telling, is trying to find out about (predict) your future without going to your creator.

Substitutes for God are called idols!

Ezekiel 21:21 (NIV) "The king of Babylon now stands at a crossroad, uncertain whether or not to attack.... So his advisors will cast lots by shaking arrows from the quiver and will inspect the livers of sacrificed animals.

This is called divination

Examples today: Palm reading tarot cards, horoscopes, psychic readings, crystal ball, séances, outjie boards...

Deuteronomy 18:10-12 "Never look to psychics or séances or fortunetelling or the stars or people who claim to contact the dead. People who do these things are doing evil and God hates it with a passion."

You are never going to know Gods will through these means!

4. If I want to be led by god's Spirit, I must stop being led by my circumstances

When you build your life around your circumstances you are on shaky ground. 'It must be God's will'

Acts 27:10, 13-15 "Paul said, 'Men, If we sail now, the voyage will be a disaster. We'll lose the ship, the cargo and maybe even our own lives...but when a gentle breeze came up, they thought. This is exactly what we wanted,' so they launched out, thinking it would be smooth

sailing. But at sea, a violent typhoon storm arose which made it impossible to control the direction of the ship. 'So we gave up and just let her drift...'"

Open door circumstances can be found out as trap doors. Don't use circumstances to discern Gods will, use circumstances to confirm God's

5. If I want to be led by Gods Spirit <u>I cannot be led by my feelings</u>

Your feelings lie to you all the time! Feelings good or bad they will not last. Elation, panic, depression they will not last at the same intensity its not permanent. Common mistake: 'let you conscious be your guide, just because you think it doesn't make it true. Just because its popular or someone else thought it does not make it true. Truth is simply true.

Most people make decisions based on how they feel. You cannot make a decision based on how you feel, you must have more information.

Proverbs 14:12 (CEV) "You may feel you're on the right road and still end up dead."

Isaiah 53:6 (living bible) "we've all strayed away like sheep! We have left God's paths to follow our own.

Five things to Start Doing.

1. I must want to be led.

Desire, longing, craving- when you are desperate.

Psalm 40:8 "My god, I want to do what you want. Your teachings are in my heart."

2. I must be willing to do what God says

Decide in advance 'YES' I surrender my life completely

John 7:17 (TEV) "Whoever is willing to do what God wants and chooses it will know if what I teach comes from God."

3. I must look to Gods Word

Psalm 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path."Psalm 119:133 "Guide my steps by Your Word, so I will not be overcome by any evil."

- a. <u>Gods will is found in God's Word</u> when you open your bible God opens His mouth. Stop listening for a voice and start looking for a verse. God expects me to obey what I already know before he shows me something new. START DOING WHAT YOU ALREADY KNOW IS GODS WILL.
- b. GOD'S WILL NEVER CONTRADICTS GOD'S WORD. What does the bible say?
- 4. If I want to be led by God's Spirit, I must ask the Holy Spirit to be my Guide.

He is our guidance counselor.

James 4:2 "You do not have because you do not ask God for it.

Psalm 27:11 "Teach me Lord what You want me to do, and lead me down the right path."

How does he do that-?

The Holy Spirit reminds us what we have read in the Bible. You have to get in the book. If your not in the book you get nothing.

God puts impressions or ideas in our mind. The devil puts temptations.

How do I get Gods ideas quicker?

<u>Ask humbly</u>

Psalm 25:9 "God Guides the humble in what is right and teaches them His way." <u>Ask in Faith.</u>

James 1:5-6 If you want to know what God really wants you to do, ask Him, and He will gladly tell you, for He is always ready to give a bountiful supply of wisdom to all who ask Him; but...be sure that you really expect Him to tell you...If you don't ask in faith, don't expect the Lord to give you any solid answer."

5. If I want to be led by God's Spirit I must listen for God's response.

Quiet time daily

Job 33:14 "God does speak- sometimes one way and sometimes another- even though people may not understand it."

Psalm 77:19 (NLT) "Your road led by a pathway through the sea- a pathway no one knew was there!"

He will make a pathway through the sea