

HOW TO HEAR THE VOICE OF GOD

Romans 8:14

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

Paul said that the distinguishing characteristic that marks a child of God is the ability to be led by the Holy Spirit. For those who are saved, this should not be any more supernatural than a dog's ability to bark. This should be natural. It's something that we ought to do. Before we can be effectively led by the Spirit, we must have an understanding of the spiritual realm and of our own nature.

Genesis 1:26-27

And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him, male and female created He them.

John 4:24

God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in truth.

If man is created in the image of God, then man also is a spirit. We also have a body, but we are spiritual beings. This is how we contact God.

Science tells us that man is nothing more than a highly evolved animal, yet everyday the world gives ascent to the fact that man is distinctly separate from all the other animals.

There is a law in the earth called authority and responsibility. This means that those who have great responsibility also have great authority.

I Thessalonians 5:23

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly: and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of God tells us very clearly that man has three parts. Every part of your being is in one of these categories of spirit, soul, or body. Man is a spirit being with a soul that lives in a body.

Proverbs 20:27

The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly.

This means that God will lead you through the vehicle of your spirit. He will speak to your spirit. Many people think this means that the Holy Spirit will give them goose bumps or some kind of emotional release in order to lead them. However, when God leads by the Holy Spirit, it is through your human spirit.

With the body, we make contact with this physical world. With the soul, we make contact with the mental and emotional world. With the spirit, we contact the spiritual world.

It is impossible to find the will of God through the mind. This would be like trying to receive a television picture over the radio. We must learn to quieten our minds so that we can clearly hear our spirits if we are going to receive direction.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

When you embrace Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, there is a process that takes place in you. Everything in that part of your being is wiped out, and something new takes its place.

Ephesians 2:10

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

When your spirit was made new in Christ Jesus, it was created for good works. The Bible says that God gives us the will and the ability to do His good works. He not only tells us what to do, but also puts the desire to do it within our spirits.

In the Old Testament, God gave a program for the soul. David said in Psalm 23 that God restored his soul.

Many Christians think they are being spiritual when they are actually being soulish. If all you do is display emotion, then you are operating in the soulish arena.

Psalm 1:3

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth its fruit in its season; its leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

This says the mature Christian is like a tree. True spirituality is stability.

Hebrews 4:12

For the Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

The Word of God separates the soul and spirit. The more you renew your mind with God's Word; the more you will know the difference between soul and spirit.

Romans 12:1-2

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies as living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the

renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.

This says that we are transformed when we renew our minds. We must do this on a daily basis. To renew our minds, we re-program it to think like God by reading God's Word. Then, when we don't know what to do, or the Bible doesn't give us specific instruction, we have the Holy Spirit inside us. Our spirits will be sensitive enough to hear the voice of God.

1 Corinthians 14:14

For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful.

1 Corinthians 14:2

For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God; for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.

1 Corinthians 14:4

He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.

The word edify means to build up. When we pray in tongues, we are building or charging up our spirits, but our understanding is not touched. The soul is not effected by praying in tongues. You cannot receive a leading from God in your soul. The leading of the Lord is not a feeling.

1 John 5:10-13

He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made Him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of His Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

Having eternal life is not a feeling, it is a knowledge. When we come to Christ, the first knowledge we receive is the knowledge that we are saved. The Bible says that His Spirit bears witness with our spirits that we are saved.

The Bible says that the steps of a righteous man are ordered of God. It doesn't say that leaps are ordered of God. Always walk in stability.

Following the will of God is not a feeling. It is a knowledge and a confidence that is greater than anything you will received from your intellect.

God wants to lead you through your spirit. Your spirit is where the Spirit of God will reach you, not through feelings, but a knowledge or a confidence. This is what will produce fruit in your life.