

Prerequisites to Being Led by the Spirit of God, Part 2

The Holy Spirit wants to lead and guide you through green pastures to still waters. However, to hear from Him, certain prerequisites must be met. Once you hear His voice, your life will become directed instead of driven.

A. You must have faith to hear from God (2 Corinthians 5:7).

1. Faith is "having confidence in God and His Word."
 - a. Faith involves walking by the Word that has yet to be made manifest in your life.
 - b. God cannot direct you if you are led by your physical senses.
 - c. Emotions are unstable, and you cannot live by them.
 - i. Your actions must be based on truth (the Word), which is stable.
 - ii. You cannot live by the unstable opinions of society either.
 - iii. The Word, not your feelings, should determine your actions.
2. Worship God in Spirit and in truth (John 4:24).
 - a. God leads you through your born-again spirit (Proverbs 20:27).
3. Without faith, it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6).
 - a. To seek God means, "to research Him, inquire of Him and practicing His presence."
 - b. Faith will cause you to seek Him.
 - c. Divine direction is given to those who diligently seek God.
4. God will use peace to direct your life (Colossians 3:15).

B. You must spend time with the Holy Spirit to receive His divine direction.

1. You have an anointing to know all things (1 John 2:20).
 - a. When you fellowship with the Holy Spirit, He shares His knowledge with you and leads you into all truth.
2. Develop a consciousness of His presence by talking to Him.
 - a. When you do, He will confirm His presence and will show you things to come.
 - b. Your fellowship with Him gives you an advantage over the world.

C. A quiet spirit enhances your ability to hear from God.

1. You cannot hear from God when your spirit is consumed by the cares of the world.
 - a. Learn to cast your cares on Him.
 - b. Worry is a sin, because it is a negative form of meditation.
 - c. Spend time meditating on the Word (Joshua 1:8).
2. Your quietness demonstrates your confidence in God's Word (Isaiah 30:15).
3. Like Noah, you can hear from God in specific detail.

4. Don't try to locate God in the "big" things. Instead, listen for His still, small voice (1 Kings 19:11-12).
 - a. A quiet spirit allows you to hear His voice in the midst of a noisy environment.
 - b. Although a quiet environment is helpful, an inner quietness is more profitable.
 - c. Get rid of the stress in your life; learn how to have fun.
 - d. Laughter will help you to develop a quiet spirit.

D. You cannot expect to hear from God if you are not walking in love.

1. To walk in love is to live without malice and anger.
 - a. You must be free from "dis-ease" in your mind.
2. When you obey God's commandments, you demonstrate your love for Him (2 Corinthians 3:17-18).
3. Nothing will work in your life if you don't love others.
4. Don't allow past situations to ruin your ability to hear from God.

2 Corinthians 5:7

John 4:24

Proverbs 20:27

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