

How do I determine God's will and direction?
(Don't ask, "What's God's will for my life?")

How the Spirit *CONNECTS* with US

Leadings, promptings, directions, thoughts, desires, feelings –

Gifts given directly to us...that result in...drawing us closer to Him.

Right discernment is founded on the PRESENCE of the SPIRIT within us.

The Holy Spirit can be counted on to...

- Assure us of God's love and trustworthy nature (Romans 8:16)
- Convict us of sin, reveal the false self, its agendas and attachments (Jn 16:8)
- Lead us into trust, opening us to the cleansing power of repentance and freedom Jesus brings (John 16:13)
- Bring glory to God through everything that happens to us (John 16:14)
- Nurture the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-24)

IN PRACTICE – HOW DO I DETERMINE GOD'S VOICE?

Scripture

Scripture comes first. If you are in doubt on any subject, you must, first of all, consult the Bible. ASK ALWAYS: "What is your Biblical foundation for doing...?"

Until you have found and obeyed God's will as it is revealed in Scripture, YOU MUST NOT ASK or EXPECT a separate, direct, personal revelation.

Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path (Psalm 119:105).

Study and do your best to present yourself to God approved, a workman tested by trial who has no reason to be ashamed, accurately handling and skillfully teaching the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15).

Sense

Leave behind your foolishness and the foolish and live,

And walk in the way of insight and understanding.

Give instruction to a wise man and he will become even wiser;

Teach a righteous man and he will increase his learning.

The reverent fear of the Lord – that is, worshiping Him and regarding Him as truly awesome is the beginning and the preeminent part of wisdom its starting point and its essence, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding and spiritual insight.

For by me, the wisdom from God, your days will be multiplied and your life will be increased. If you are wise, you are wise for yourself for your own benefit;

If you scoff (thoughtlessly ridicule and disdain), you alone will pay the penalty (Proverbs 9:6-12)

And we have seen and know by personal experience that the Son of God has actually come to this world, and has given us understanding and insight so that we may progressively and personally know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true – in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

Little children – believers, dear ones – guard yourselves from idols, from false teachings, moral compromises, and anything that would take God’s place in your heart (1 John 5:20-21).

Situation

And we know with great confidence that God who is deeply concerned about us causes all things to work together as a plan for good for those who love God, to those who are called according to His plan and purpose (Romans 8:28).

Not that I speak from any personal need, for I have learned to be content and self-sufficient through Christ, satisfied to the point where I am not disturbed or uneasy regardless of my circumstances. I know how to get along and live humbly in difficult times, and I also know how to enjoy abundance and live in prosperity. In any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of facing life, whether well-fed or going hungry, whether having an abundance or being in need.

¹³ I can do all things which He has called me to do through Him who strengthens and empowers me to fulfill His purpose—I am self-sufficient in Christ’s sufficiency; I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him who infuses me with inner strength and confident peace (Philippians 4:11-13).

Spirit

God, having spoken to the fathers long ago in the voices and writings of the prophets in many separate revelations, each of which set forth a portion of the truth, and in many ways, has in these last days spoken with finality to us in the person of One who is by His character and nature His Son – namely Jesus – whom He appointed heir and lawful owner of all things, through whom also He created the universe (Hebrews 1:1-2).

I have told you these things while I am still with you. But the Helper (Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor—Counselor, Strengtheners, Standby), the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, in My place, to represent Me and act on My behalf, He will teach you all things. And He will help you remember everything that I have told you (John 14:25-26).

Lord, I am willing to...

- ***Receive what you give***
- ***Release what you take***
- ***Lack what you withhold***
- ***Do what you require***
- ***Be what you desire***