

Discernment

The call to follow Jesus

How do I know if it is the Spirit speaking?

Heritage Alliance Church
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June 2, 2024

"The Lord makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him; though he may stumble, he will not fall, the Lord upholds him with his hand." Psalm 37:23-24

Questioning common practices in regards to discernment:

How do I know what to do? Open door? Closed door?

Looking for Signs? Asking for signs? Blessing? Asking others?

Testing what you think you are hearing: **How do I know Jesus is speaking?**

➤ **Does it sound like something Jesus would say?**

"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me." John 10:27

"When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future. He will bring me glory by telling you whatever he receives from me." John 16:13-14

➤ **It is in alignment with the values, principles, and the character of our Heavenly Father?**

➤ **Will the Father be glorified?**

"Everything was created through him and for him." Colossians 1:16

➤ **Do I feel a sense of peace from God?**

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7

"Do not listen to what the prophets are prophesying to you; they fill you with false hopes. They speak visions from their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD." Jeremiah 23:16

➤ **Do you have affirmation of others after seeking wise counsel within a God fearing Christian community?**

"For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us..." Acts 15:28

"Without counsel, plans go awry, but in the multitude of counselors they are established." Proverbs 15:22

➤ **Do you spend consistent time of reflection, reading scripture, and listening to the voice of the Spirit as a regular habit in your life?**

QUESTIONS: What is a situation you are wanting to know the Spirit's direction on? Are you seeking direction to follow Jesus and bring Him glory? How is your decisions going to make a difference in the Kingdom of God? What is your regular pattern of spending time listening to the Spirit and getting to know His voice? How do you allow others to participate with you in the discernment process?