

A husband and wife, prior to marriage, told their pre-marriage counselor that they decided that “he” would make all of the major decisions in their life, and she’d decide the minor ones. So after 20 years of marriage, they happened upon the counselor again, who asked the man how this arrangement had worked. “Great he said! In all these years I’ve never had to make a major decision.”

Joking aside, life is absolutely filled with decisions, and some determine very major paths our life takes. Many times we “remember” to include consulting God in our choices, and yet sometimes, I know I have, maybe because I’ve felt so strong in my own desire, or trusted too much in my own wisdom, I failed to stop, and in silence- LISTEN for God’s VOICE. Failure in either seeking wisdom in scripture or just NOT TRUSTING GOD’S VOICE SPEAKING TO MY SPIRIT, or maybe I should say- NOT UNDERSTANDING THAT I COULD AND SHOULD HAVE SEEKED AND TRUSTED IN **HIS VOICE**.

In nearly 30 years of listening to church sermons, I just don’t recall hearing any one on **how to Hear and Trust that Voice** of the **Holy Spirit**, which by the way is supposed to be living in us- residing within our very being.....  
*1 Corinthians 3:16 Don't you know that you people are God's temple and that **God's Spirit lives in you**?* [CJB]

As a matter of fact, “God’s” Spirit- the “Holy Spirit” is to dwell in us to the point that disrespecting, thus “destroying” our dwelling place- our body, is directly addressed by Paul. Notice.....

*17 So if anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy [set apart], and **you yourselves are that temple**. [Also 1 Cor 6:19, 2 Cor 6:16]*

And by the way, Paul didn’t invent this concept. Consider.....

*Ezekiel 36:27 And I will put **my Spirit within you**, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep mine ordinances, and do them. [ASV]*  
— and...

*Isaiah 63:11 Then he remembered the days of old, Moses and his people, saying, Where is he that brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock? where is he **that put his holy Spirit in the midst of them**?*

There are many many scriptures that support God’s Spirit living in us, but for sake of time we’ll look at just one more witness...

2 Timothy 1:14 Keep safe **the great treasure** that has been **entrusted** to you, with the help of the Ruach HaKodesh [**the Holy Spirit**], **who lives in us**. [CJB]

THE Great Treasure, - Entrusted to us, - who **Lives In Us**.

So then, doesn't it make sense that we would have **communication** that we should Trust and Rely on? This Treasure that's Entrusted to us, and LIVES WITHIN US?

Now we need to **know** that the Holy Spirit is NOT a 3rd Individual or person, but **is** the **element** of **GOD's VERY OWN SPIRIT**, - His Set Apart Spirit that "HE" sends to dwell within us. That is what scripture states, both old and new testaments. More details on this in other studies, but to stay on the point of this study.....

Important Question: How can we Trust that which we FEEL is the Holy Spirit prompting us, or speaking to us?

In the church group that I belonged to for 30 years, if someone said "the Holy Spirit SPOKE to me", most would consider they were either out there in Lala land, or back away and certainly not trust on whatever they would say regarding their conversation. If old and new testament statements tell us clearly that **"God's" spirit LIVES in us, then why should we feel it so foreign that HE should speak to us and prompt us?**

Consider these 5 Spirit Rules:

**#1: God's Spirit will Never prompt or tell us to act or say things contrary to His written scriptures!**

If we ever find conflict between scripture and what we believe we've heard our inner voice telling us, then we must pray, and fast on it, and also consult trusted brethren or minister(s). We are told to "TEST ALL THINGS":  
1 Thessalonians 5:21 But do **test everything** — hold onto what is good,  
[CJB] Other translations say: "**prove** all things".

Consider this: John 15:26 "When the Counselor comes, whom I [Yeshua] will send you **from the Father** — **the Spirit of Truth**, who keeps going out **from the Father** — he will testify on my behalf. (testify on Yeshua's behalf)

So, we should look to our MIRROR of Father God IN THE FLESH,- Yeshua our elder brother. Look to the examples he left for us recorded in our bibles,- **AND SPEAK TO HIM ABOUT IT!** Yes, Pray to Yeshua (Jesus, Yeshua as he was known to his family and friends). We should talk to our savior, who is our wise elder brother, saying “Yeshua, *how would you handle this, what would you do, how should I proceed?*”

Remember: “*he (God’s Holy Spirit) will testify on **my** behalf.*” In other words, our savior-brother is our example. Try to apply this to every circumstance, from jobs, to dealing with friends/family, from our rising up to our lying down.

**#2: The voice and prompting of God’s Spirit will not be tied to, or seek after worldly self gain.**

Confession: I have been guilty of not consulting God often enough on some important things, as if having blinders on, instead trusting in self, which have led to bad outcomes. There may be no greater EARTHLY pull than that of Earthly desires, and they have taken down so many. Whether money, possessions, physical desires, etc, many including King David and others, have been lured into wrong desires....

*Romans 8:5 For those who identify with their old nature [natural human desires] set their minds on the things of the old nature, but those who identify with the **Spirit** set their minds on the things of the Spirit.*

Our old nature, or the natural human nature will constantly be there ready to rise up if and when we IGNORE the Spirit of God. So just as someone in a 12-step addiction program must do, we must take it one day at a time and WITH the Consultation of God’s Holy Spirit alive within us that we are not quenching by ignoring or shutting out.....

*Romans 8:9 But you, you do not identify with your old nature **but with the Spirit** — provided the Spirit of God is living inside you, for anyone who doesn’t have the Spirit of the Messiah doesn’t belong to him. 10 However, if the Messiah is in you, then, on the one hand, the body is dead because of sin; but, on the other hand, **the Spirit is giving life** because God considers you righteous. 11 And if the Spirit of the One who raised Yeshua from the dead is living in you, then the One who raised the Messiah Yeshua from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you. [CJB]*

This is not to say that we must avoid the blessings of physical abundance, but it is saying not to have those things be the **motivation** for our existence. Yes, it is a blessing to be blessed in our physical lives, but we just need to make sure we don't allow "things" to become our god....

*1 Timothy 6:9 Furthermore, those whose **goal** is to be rich fall into temptation; they get trapped in many foolish and hurtful ambitions which plunge them into ruin and destruction. 10 For the **love** of money is a root of all the evils; because of this craving, some people have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves to the heart with many pains. [CJB]*

Timothy's teaching here is that the "**L-O-V-E**" of money is the problem, not having money.

*Matthew 6:21 For where your wealth is, there your heart will be also.*

So we should be wise in what we consider as our wealth, hopefully in what will not decay and pass away. (Mat 6:19-20)

### **#3: Is the voice to GOD'S GLORY, or about Self?**

Who is being glorified or lifted up? I just mentioned the caution of feeling prompted to go finance a new house, not that buying a new needed house is bad, the point of #3 is consider who or what is being lifted up when we feel **God's Spirit** is speaking to us or promoting us.

For me, this goes back to the question "Why was I born"?

Am I here to just run after my pleasures all of my days,- - will that make me to lie in my grave with a smile on my face?

Again, I can't over emphasize, that I am not saying we must deny earthly pleasures. God Himself tells us: *John 10:10 ...I have come so that they may have life, **life in its fullest measure**.* But how do we define "**life in its fullest measure**"? This is the consideration.

*Isaiah 48:17 Thus saith Jehovah, thy Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: I am Jehovah thy God, who teacheth thee to profit, **who leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go**. [ASV]* The Complete Jewish Bible gives a good clear interpretation of this: "**who teaches you for your own good**"

Back to why we are born...

*Isaiah 43:7 every one that is called by my name, and **whom I have created for my glory**, whom I have formed, yea, whom I have made.*

Think about this for a moment. We have a short time here in our flesh, maybe 70, 80, 90 years or more if we are so blessed, but there are only a very very few things that we may do or touch in this life **that will last**. Even if we form the largest successful global business to ever exist. Guess what- it will absolutely one day pass away. The Earth itself one day will pass away.

We must shift our minds and our vision to an **“eternal” vision**. Our creator is eternal, and He created us to be eternal <— — — — !!!!

Nothing we do in this life can outlast **K**indness, **L**ove, **F**riendship, and **U**plifting towards our fellow present and future eternal siblings, AND in doing these things we “Glorify God our Creator and Designer”!

Whenever we bless each other with these things of God, it is like an eternal ripple in time, that goes on forever, as these are the things that don't dissolve from our eternal bank account.....

Luke 6:38 **Give**, and you will receive gifts — the **full measure, compacted, shaken together** and **overflowing**, will be put right in your lap. For the measure with which you measure out will be used to measure back to you!” [CJB]

And this is how we also **glorify** God:

John 15:8 This is how my Father is glorified — in your bearing much fruit;...

Matthew 25:40 The King will say to them, ‘Yes! I tell you that **whenever you did these things for one of the least important** of these brothers of mine, you did them for me!’

Matthew 5:16 so that they may see the **good things** you do and **praise your Father in heaven**.

Philippians 2:1 Therefore, if you have any encouragement for me from your being in union with the Messiah,- any comfort flowing from love,- any fellowship with me in the Spirit,- or any compassion and sympathy, 2 then complete my joy by..... **having a common purpose and a common love**, by being one in heart and mind. 3 Do nothing out of rivalry or vanity; but, in humility, regard each other as better than yourselves — 4 look out for each other's interests and not just for your own.

2 Corinthians 9:11 You will be enriched in every way, so that you can **be generous in everything**. And through us your generosity will cause people to thank God, -This is how we glorify God.

[also see my message on being "other centered"]

#### #4: Is there a Spiritual Lesson or Growth?

John 14:26 But **the Counselor**, the Ruach HaKodesh [Holy Spirit], whom the Father will send in my name (Yeshua), will teach you everything;...

Our existence here on earth as I said is not just to chase- day after day,- to gather from this earth, but to Learn and to Grow SPIRITUALLY.

1 John 2: 20 But you have **an anointing from the Holy One**, and all of you know **the truth**.

27 As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as **his anointing teaches you** about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit—just **as it has taught you**, remain in him. [NIV]

I look at this life as the University. God wants us to grow in Spiritual Truth and Wisdom. In everything we will continually check the voice within to God's written word, which is by the way,- the Owners Manuel He sent along with His prized product; you and me.

God's voice many times will be very different than any other voice, meaning it may direct us to a way or path that may not be the easy path. God's choice for us may just be to draw us out of our "comfort zone". Sometimes it may **involve change**. We as humans may not be so anxious to embrace change, when we get in a comfort zone, we generally want to stay there. This is the times when we most often try to NOT hear God's voice. We often tend to dismiss the voice that may take us outside of our comfort zone, yet very often THIS IS WHERE **SPIRITUAL GROWTH** QUITE OFTEN TAKES PLACE.

#### #5: There will be Spiritual Fruit

Galatians 5:22 But the **fruit of the Spirit** is **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 humility, self control**. Nothing in the Torah stands against such things.

It is true that God is for us (Romans 8:31), yet it's doubtful that His Spirit will be telling us which restaurant or baseball game to go to, which shirt to wear, or other trivial things. God is concerned with boosting the Fruit of HIS Spirit.

We can trust in things that will lead to SOMEONE ELSE'S or Our own spiritual growth in the Fruit of His Spirit.

### FINALLY...

Prayer. Pray continually to Father to guide you to **HIS Truths**, to guide you by **HIS Wisdom**, to speak to you by His spirit for **HIS PLAN** and for **HIS GLORY** and for that **of His MESSIAH**, and in that **HELP US TO HEAR HIS VOICE AND ACT BY HIS WILL**. <— — —

God came to Solomon, David's son, as a young man in a dream, and asked him what he would desire. Here is Solomon's wise answer...

*1 Kings 3:11 And God said unto him [Solomon], Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life, neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies, but hast asked for thyself **understanding to discern justice**; 12 behold, I have done according to thy word: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there hath been none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee. 13 And I have also given thee that which thou hast not asked, **both riches and honor**, so that there shall not be any among the kings like unto thee, all thy days. 14 And **if** thou wilt **walk in my ways, to keep my statutes and my commandments**, as thy father David did walk, then I will lengthen thy days. [ASV]*

So as we grow to hear our Master's voice, let the whole of our being act and love by our Dear God's Holy Spirit!