

SEEING & HEARING

Keep Cool

I. The importance of being led

- A. Decisions determine direction and direction determines destiny
 - 1. A person makes hundreds of decisions everyday (if not thousands) each decisions puts you on a course or direction and each direction leads to a destination-2 Kings 11
 - 2. If you don't want to end up at the wrong place you must not make decisions that will set you on a course or direction that will lead you there and the only way to make the right decisions is to be led by the Spirit of God
- B. When you close yourself off to the leading of the spirit you close yourself off to all the good things that were going to come as a result of you yielding to it
 - 1. By not being open many people are not allowing the Lord to do what He wants to do for them- Psalm 81:11
 - a. What are not open to do that's keeping you from God's best in your life?
 - 2. Matthew 23:37-39-I would have protected you and prospered you, but you weren't open, wouldn't hear, wouldn't receive

II. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of peace who leads by peace with peace

- A. If you want to be led by the Spirit and be sensitive to God's direction and hear when God talks to you then you're going to have to get on the peace channel
 - 1. God is a God of peace, the Word of God is the Word of peace, Jesus is the prince of peace, The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of peace (1 Thess 5:23, Romans 10:15, Isaiah 9:6)
 - 2. Can you live a restful life, a quiet life, a life where you're soul is assured you and you fear nothing? That's the life of **peace**
- B. Romans 8:14-15-The Holy Spirit is not the spirit of fear and He doesn't lead by fear, torment, and chaos, and He can't lead a person who is **yielding** to those things
 - 1. 1 John 4:18-The fearful, tormented life is not a still, quiet life, it is a loud, restless, chaotic life
 - 2. The Holy Spirit is the comforter and he is the spirit of peace-John 14:26-27
 - a. **Comfort**-Relief from distress of mind; ease & quiet experienced when agitation ceases
- C. It's impossible to be led by the spirit of peace when you are yielding to torment; if you're follow torment and yield to torment you're not following and yielding to the spirit of peace
 - 1. **People who are mad, upset, frustrated, vexed, worried, discouraged will be insensitive to the spirit's leading because while you yield to those feelings you're resisting Him**
 - a. God's on the peace channel and to hear Him you got to get on that channel; you have to get in His vein; He's not on the complain channel or the frustrated channel

- b. Being a frantic, basket-case, in a hurry, go-go-go, worried, frustrated, mad and vexed will lead to you being insensitive to the Holy Spirit
- 2. **Frustration will keep you from direction; Agitation will keep you from direction; Vexation will keep you from direction; Depression will keep you from direction**
 - a. Acts 8:26-Philipp was a part of this huge revival in Samaria and Peter and John are going to continue the revival, but God tells him to get on the road leading to Gaza, which was a desert place where the church was struggling, and if he would have been pouting and mad, he would have missed his whole assignment
- D. Col 3:15 AMP-We are supposed to be led by peace, by the spirit of peace and if your heart is bothering you about something and you don't have a peace about it then don't do it; if you don't have a peace about it, then how could it be Him
 - 1. CJB-Let the peace which comes from the Messiah be your heart's decision-maker
 - 2. AMP-Let the peace from Christ rule (act as umpire continually) in your hearts [deciding and settling with finality all questions that arise in your minds, in that peaceful state]

III. To be led by the Spirit we have to be quiet, be still, and yield to peace

- A. Your head and heart can be so noisy and it can be so loud inside that you don't hear what the Spirit of God is saying and you can't be led by the Spirit of peace while you yield to a loud, restless, chaotic life
 - 1. The noise is worry, discouragement, options, problems responsibilities, busy schedule
 - 2. **EX: Turn the music up while I talk**
- B. ***One of the tactics of the enemy is make life so loud that you miss the Spirit's leading b/c he knows in a pressured time all you'll need to be victorious is the wisdom of God***
 - 1. Isaiah 7:1-The prophet of God is here with their answer, but what good is he if hearing they don't hear and seeing the don't see and what good is the Holy Ghost to the believer if hearing they don't hear and seeing they don't see
 - a. **Quiet**-Idle, settled, be tranquil, be at peace, be quiet, rest, lie still, be undisturbed
 - b. Pay attention and be quiet go together; It's going to be hard to pay attention and hear what he's saying if they don't shut up
 - 1) To receive this direction you're going to have to be quiet
 - 2) The noise is the anxiety about this people that is going to attack them
 - c. They were under great attack and God's command was be quiet because to walk in victory they're going to have to hear from God and to hear from God you have to quiet yourself by choosing peace rather than fear
 - 2. Jeremiah 41,42-Their fear and anxiety about the Chaldeans was so loud that when God spoke they didn't hear

3. Job 3:26-Maybe something else could have happened if he would have been quiet; He was a righteous man who had heard from God, but his life got too loud
 4. 1 Thessalonians 4:11-Strive earnestly to be quiet
 5. 1 Peter 3:4-A quiet spirit is of great value to God
 6. Acts 19:34-Be quiet and do nothing rashly
- C. Will you quiet yourself so that you can hear? – Psalm 46:10
1. **Still**-Alone, idle, stay, cease, relax, withdraw, quiet
 2. 1 Peter 5:7-8-Cast your care on God and be calm and collected b/c there's an enemy out there trying to kill still and destroy and you need to be led by the Spirit
 3. This quiet, still principle we are talking about is not just something you do, but it's a way of life; it's a lifestyle that will keep you in a position to better receive direction from God
 4. **Numbers 14-If they would've just shut up and they would have heard**
- D. The wisdom of God, the direction of God is in the peace of God-James 3:16-17 (AMP)
1. 13-Meekness of wisdom-When you are walking in wisdom and you're being led by the Spirit you are walking in a mild (warm, pleasant) disposition, gentle spirit
 2. 14,15-If you're harsh, indignant, angry, contentious, self-seeking you're not yielding to peace and you'll not walk in wisdom from above and be led by the Spirit, but you'll walk in the wisdom of the world
 - a. You yield to this "non-peace" life and that's where confusion is
 - b. This people are not being led, they are not seeing and hearing
 - c. You yield to envy and strife, that's not peace and you won't have wisdom
 - d. Some people never hear because they love drama
 3. **17-Wisdom is peaceable**-It is connected to peace, brings peace with it, it loves peace
 - a. Wisdom and being led is connected to, related to peace-you can't get wisdom while you resist peace; Wisdom loves peace; you can't resist peace and get wisdom
 - 1) EX: You can't refuse Amber and get me-1 John 5:1-2
 - b. Wisdom is **gentle**-mild and patient
 - c. Wisdom is **easy to be entreated**-Easily obeying, compliant
 - d. Wisdom is full of **mercy**-Kindness, goodwill

IV. There's a quality of stillness, slowness, quietness, rest, and peace that is required if you're going to be led by Him

- A. John 8:1-10-When Jesus needed to be led by the Spirit, he got quiet and yielded to peace
1. She's committed adultery and the Word says stone her so you who preach love and mercy and forgiveness what should be done to her? --- Tough question

2. 3-7-They are testing him and wanting an answer; they want it now and surely they're not waiting quietly (They set her in the middle where everybody can see)
3. This is a pressured situation, a hectic situation, a loud situation and in the middle of all it Jesus gets quiet, gets still, and yields to peace because he knows he can't get what he needs yielding to all this frantic loud stuff

B. John 11:1-6-Particularly in times of pressure we have to guard against getting worried, frantic, or even frustrated because it will keep us from being led by the Spirit

1. This a serious situation, but rather than moving frantically Jesus got quiet and still
2. It's important that we be slow at all times because it bests positions us to be led by the Spirit (James 1:19, Proverbs 15:18, 16:32)
 - a. It's hard to receive directions when you're doing something else; but if you'll stop, slow down, and get quiet you'll be better positioned to receive direction
 - b. EX: If we filled this room and everybody was talking and meanwhile you're setting up the room it's going to be hard for you to be led by me, but if we left the room and you stopped doing what you were doing and got quiet it'd be easy
3. 41-Before he speaks to Lazarus, he yields to peace
 - a. They're accusing him, they're in unbelief, Mary is crying this is chaos
4. **A person that hears from God won't get caught up in the chaos of the situation, but in the middle of everybody else's useless unbelief and loudness they'll yield to peace and quiet themselves**

C. Isaiah 28:16-Not being in a hurry reveals faith and there's joy and peace in believing

1. If you're in faith and yielding to peace, you're calm, you're quiet, you're slow and you're positioned to be led by the spirit
2. **Haste**-Rashly, pressed, early, ripe, heedless eagerness,

V. How you do you get on the peace channel and quiet yourself to a place where you can actually hear God when he speaks? You get your mind fixed on the Word and you'll get into peace and be led by the Spirit

A. Romans 8:6, Isaiah 26:3-When you get your mind on the Word of God it gives you peace and keeps you available to being led by the Spirit; If you think on the wrong things the results will not be peace, but it will be frustration and vexation and you'll miss the leading of the spirit

1. Being carnally minded will rob of you peace and keep you from being led by the Spirit
 - a. Acts 10:19-Paul was led of the Lord as he gave his mind to the things of God
2. If you're frustrated, anxious, tormented, or vexed it's because you've been thinking on the wrong stuff and it's entirely your fault

- a. If it's bringing you frustration then stop thinking about; you can't afford to allow the spiritual atmosphere of your life to be loud, dark, and chaotic
 - b. Thinking and talking about things that are negatively effecting the spiritual atmosphere of your life is dumb and you need to stop
 - c. It's all an attempt of the enemy to get your life so loud and chaotic that you can't hear from the Holy Spirit
- B. Yielding to carnality will cause you to miss the leading of the Spirit
- 1. If you yield to carnality and get unthankful, frustrated, critical and feed on darkness it'll get darker and darker and you'll become more and more dull to the leading of the Lord
- C. To fix your mind on the word of God you're going to have to fix your mouth on the Word of God because you're mind was created to stop and hear what you're mouth has to say-2 Corinthians 10:4-5, Matthew 6:31
- 1. You're just going to have to put the plow to the ground