

## LED BY HOLY SPIRIT

### Keys To Being Led-Openness

#### I. If you're going to be lead by the Spirit of God, then you must be OPEN to His leadings and to what He has to say to you in every area of your life

- A. John 7:17-To know the will of God you have to be open to do the will of God
  - 1. NAS-If anyone is willing to do his will, he will know his will
  - 2. If you're resolve it in your heart and be determined in your heart and purpose in your heart that you are going to do the will of God whatever it may be (openness) you will know the will of God
    - a. **Will**-Resolved, determined, purpose
  - 3. Being willing to do the will of God will help you to discern what His will is
- B. \*\*\*A major thing that closes people off to hearing from God and being led by the Spirit is that they are not open to do what he says\*\*\*
  - 1. God hasn't been able to talk to some people because they are not even open to hearing from God in certain areas of their lives
    - a. You can't talk to somebody about something if they don't want to hear it
    - b. The Lord can't talk to us about a thing if we're not open to it
    - c. In whatever area you are not open, you will not be led in that area
    - d. Not being open in one area will block of direction in other areas
  - 2. When you are not open to do what God wants it will close you off to the Spirit's leading
- C. \*\*\*If you want to be sensitive to his direction you also must be receptive (open) to his direction\*\*\* - Psalm 25:9
  - 1. The meek are the ones he will guide and show his way
    - a. Meek means not proud, but **humble**
      - 1) Humility realizes God's smarter to me, he knows what's best for me, therefore I'm completely open to do is will b/c I know that he knows more than I do; I'm not smart enough to come up with own or know what's best or to make it on my own – This is humility, this is meekness, this is openness
      - 2) Humility will give birth to openness
    - b. Meek means **yielding**-Ready to give way, ready to comply; ready to be flexible
      - 1) The teachable will be taught; the leadable will be led
    - c. Meek means **submissive**-Submission is when you're open to do what one in authority says: pride rebels because is not open
      - 1) Whatever one in authority says I'm open/ready to do
    - d. Meek means **soft**-Easily worked, easily yielding, flexible

- 1) Soft represents something that will easily and readily conform to what God wants; I'm open to be whatever you want
  - 2) EX: Play-dough is open, concrete is not
2. If you close yourself off to the leading of the spirit, you won't be sensitive to his direction
    - a. If you've already made up in your mind what you're going to do, you won't be open to receive direction from the Holy Spirit
    - b. It's the man or woman is open to direction, that will receive direction
    - c. A trick people use on themselves is they hear from God, but they close themselves off to it by saying, "I don't know what that was," – meaning I don't know if that was God
      - 1) If you say that's not God, then the next time the Holy Spirit deals with you this is same spirit that wasn't God a few days ago and you confuse your own spirit and dull yourself
- D. Jeremiah 42-They were open, that is why they got the leading of the Lord
1. Jeremiah 41-43-This wicked man Ishmael was a murderer and was holding people captive. When Johanan heard that he got people together & fought Ishmael & his men and won, but Ishmael escaped; Johanan feared the Chaldeans would retaliate against these people b/c of what Ishmael did
  2. The prophet operated in the office of the ministry of the Holy Spirit in those days
    - a. It is where the people went to get leading and direction
    - b. 4-He's not speaking of himself, but what he hears that he speaks-John 16:13
  3. 6-They are open to do whatever God says
    - a. It is easy to say I'm willing until it comes down to doing something that requires faith
    - b. It was going to require faith to not go to Egypt and it didn't make sense
  4. It's not enough to just be willing b/c if you truly are willing then you'll be obedient-Is 1:19
    - a. **Willing**-Accept, consent
    - b. If you're not willing you won't even have the opportunity to obey the direction b/c you won't get it
      - 1) To obey the direction you have to get the direction and to get the direction you have to be open
    - c. If you're not open you're going to miss out on good things that God has for you
- E. You'll have to take the time to be open and to be okay with going either way
1. Psalm 78:8-You got to set your heart aright and that means you determine that you're going whatever way God says whether you like it or not, whether you agree or not, whether it makes sense or not and you're ready to act
    - a. When your heart is set aright you are determined to do what God says and you're ready to do what God says

- b. You got to be ready in your heart to do whatever he wants; inside I get ready to do whatever God wants; in my heart I determine that I'm going to do whatever he wants and in my heart I'm ready
  - c. This is people who refused to go in the promise land; they didn't determine with all of their heart to do what he said and they weren't ready; Joshua and Caleb determined in their heart to do what he said and they were ready to do what God said (Let us go up at once, we are well able to possess it)
2. Psalm 112:6-7-You got to take the time to fix (make ready) your heart to God's and establish your heart in his will for your life
- a. Ready to do whatever he says and just trust him
  - b. Abraham was ready to sacrifice Isaac (he rose up early in the morning) and he was trusting that if I kill him God will have to raise him from the dead
    - 1) He was open, he was ready, he was trusting

**II. If you are only aware of what you want to do you are going to be oblivious to God's plans, God's leading, and God's direction; you have to be conscious of what God wants and interested in what He wants if you want to be led by His Spirit**

- A. Some people are afraid of the direction of the Lord (They're afraid the Lord will have them away from their family in Africa) - Mark 10-The rich young ruler was afraid
- B. If you will recognize that the secret to your fulfillment in life is in pleasing the Father, then you will be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit because you'll know that you can't be fulfilled without yielding to that leading-John 4:34
  - 1. People are closed off to the direction of the Spirit b/c they fear they won't be fulfilled if they hear his leading and yield to it
  - 2. The only place you'll be happy & fulfilled is the place that the Holy Spirit leads you to
  - 3. Proverbs 16:7-You want to be open to God's will and open to pleasing God
- C. I delight to do thy will o God-Psalm 40:8
  - 1. If God likes it all of the sudden I like it; if I like it and God doesn't all of the sudden I don't like it because I am open (Not my will, but yours be done-Luke 22:42)
- D. No matter what you thought would happen or what kind of plan you've had you must be open to the Lord telling you something else
  - 1. If you haven't heard from God, then don't make plans for the future because when you get your heart set on plans you've made it makes it more difficult to be open to God's plan
  - 2. Beware of making your own plan and setting in concrete-Psalm 37:23

**III. 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**

- A. \*\*\*Many people by not being open are not allowing the Lord to do what He wants to do for them\*\*\*  
(Psalm 81:11)
- B. Matthew 23:37-39-I would have protected you and prospered you, but you weren't open, wouldn't hear,  
wouldn't receive