

HOW TO BE LED BY THE SPIRIT
A Willing Heart & A Hearing Ear

- I. A willing heart makes a hearing ear-***Jn7:12-There was much murmuring among the people concerning him: for some said, He is a good man: others said, Nay; but he deceives the people. ¹⁶Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me. ¹⁷If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself-**NAS**-If anyone is willing to do His will, he will know about the teaching, whether it is of God, or I am speaking from Myself-**GW**-Those who want to follow the will of God will know if what I teach is from God or if I teach my own thoughts*
- A. There were disputes about whether He/what He was saying was from God-He said the key to knowing if something is/isn't God to being willing to conform to God's will (whatever it may be) and if you are willing to conform to God's will (whatever it may be), you will know God's will
- B. A willingness to conform your thoughts/beliefs/actions to God's will opens you up to hear from Him and discover what His will actually is-If you want to know His will THE KEY is to be willing conform His will whatever it may be
1. Resolve to go with God whatever that means-A genuine willingness to go with God (whatever that means) opens the ear to hear, the eye to see-**NRSV**-*Anyone who resolves to do the will of God*
- C. If you are unwilling to conform to God's will then you won't know His will -You don't need to know because even if you did know you wouldn't conform
- D. Am I willing to believe whatever God says in His Word?-Many aren't and they want to believe what they want to believe and this unwillingness to conform to what He says, keeps them from knowing what He actually says
- II. Unwillingness deafens the ear and dims the eye-Because they were unwilling they didn't discern what the will of God was/pick it up when God spoke-***Jer42:4-Jeremiah the prophet said unto them, I have heard you; behold, I will pray unto the Lord your God according to your words; and it shall come to pass, that whatsoever thing the Lord shall answer you, I will declare it unto you; I will keep nothing back from you. ⁵Then they said to Jeremiah, The Lord be a true and faithful witness between us, if we do not even according to all things for the which the Lord thy God shall send thee to us. ⁶Whether it be good, or whether it be evil, we will obey the voice of the Lord our God, to whom we send thee; that it may be well with us, when we obey the voice of the Lord our God-***Jer43:2**-*Thou speakest falsely: the Lord our God hath not sent thee to say, Go not into Egypt to sojourn there*
- A. We don't find out how willing you are until your will doesn't align with God's will-Just saying you're willing doesn't make you willing
- III. If you will cultivate a willingness to do God's will YOU WILL KNOW/HEAR- Cultivate on the willingness and YOU WILL HEAR**
- A. He knew the Father's will because he was willing to do the Father's will-**Jn5:30**-*I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me-***Lk22:42**-*Father, if you be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but yours, be done.*
- B. Two statements that will open you up to hear the will of God-1.I delight to do your will God-**Ps40:8** 2.Not my will, but yours be done
- C. If you'll be willing you'll hear and if you hear and obey (follow his leadings) you'll eat the good of the land-**Is1:19**
- D. God can work in you the way you want to-I'm willing to be willing, I want to want to-**Ph2:13**-*For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure*