

Ch. 12 “Relying On The Holy Spirit For Daily Guidance” What is the day-to-day role of the Holy Spirit in my life?

Who do you turn to in your life for advice and guidance? Why do you turn to them?

“If you seek advice from another person, get advice that is honest, true to God’s Word, and without ulterior motives.”

Why do we seek advice from those who know us best or know the subject we are seeking advice about the best?

Psalm 139:1-4 – King David wrote: “O Lord, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O Lord.”

What is David telling us about God? Is there anything you can think, say, or do that will surprise God?

God Has Always Sought To Guide His People

Rom. 8:14 – Paul wrote: “...because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship.”

God is the Father of all in the sense that he created all and His love and providential care are extended to all.

Mat. 5:45 – Jesus said: “...Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven.” Have you ever considered yourself a son of God?

But not all are His children.

John 8:44 – Jesus said to the unbelieving Jews of His day: “You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him.”

Do you know unbelievers of this day? How do they follow the devil and may not even know it?

There are three results of following the Holy Spirit in your life:

1. Conviction of sin, righteousness, and judgement: He gives us a clear understanding of what is wrong, what is right, and how to tell the difference.
2. Revelation of the truth: He helps to keep us from stumbling and making mistakes. He will lead us to right choices, right relationships, and right priorities.
3. Searches our hearts: He reveals to us our deepest motives and our deepest desires to make us more like Jesus Christ every day.

Can you think of examples of these in your life where the Holy Spirit acted, and the results were obvious?

Conditions For The Holy Spirit’s Guidance – What is necessary for the Holy Spirit to be active in your life?

1. Believe in Jesus. The Holy Spirit does not give daily guidance to non-believers. Have you ever thought of this? What is it like to walk through life without guidance from God?
2. Stay yielded to the Holy Spirit. We must follow and obey His prompting and not our own desires. Can you do this?
3. Believe we will receive His guidance. We must have faith that the Holy Spirit is in our inner ear and we must intentionally listen for Him. Do you listen for the Holy Spirit?
4. Wait upon the Lord. God’s time is perfect. We must not act on our own desires but rather wait for the Holy Spirit. Are there times when you should have waited rather than acting on your own?

How Guidance Is Imparted To Us

How does the Holy Spirit communicate to us? Have you noticed a particular way He speaks to you?

Here are three ways the Holy Spirit can reveal Himself:

1. The Bible – Has scripture spoken to you before?
2. Circumstances – opened and closed doors. Do you have any examples?
3. Conviction – feelings in your heart. Have you experienced a heaviness, warning, danger, joy, or peace in your heart when you knew it was the Holy Spirit communicating with you?

“The Holy Spirit does not want God’s will for our lives be a mystery. He has come to reveal the truth to us. He has come in His all-knowing ability to impart to us what we need to know in order to live obedient and faithful lives. So trust Him to guide you...now and always.”