

How to Receive Guidance from God, Part 3

Small Group Discussion Guide

"How to Receive Guidance from God, Part 3"

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1. SERMON RECAP

In this message, I shared that every believer has a God-given calling on their life, and the greatest quest we have is to discover and fulfill that calling. I unpacked how praying in the Holy Spirit is not an optional spiritual exercise but is absolutely essential -- like oxygen -- for unlocking the mysteries of God's plan for our lives. Just as the pillar of cloud guided the children of Israel step by step through the wilderness, the Holy Spirit living inside us wants to guide us just as clearly today, through our spirits rather than our senses.

2. KEY SCRIPTURE

Romans 8:14, 16

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God... The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God."

3. ICE BREAKER

Have you ever followed a GPS that took you somewhere completely unexpected -- and it turned out to be either a disaster or surprisingly great? Tell us what happened!

4. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Getting Started

I described the Holy Spirit as a built-in GPS system that God placed inside every believer. In your own words, what do you think it means to be led by the Spirit in everyday, practical life? Does that feel natural or mysterious to you right now?

2. Going Deeper on the Calling

I referenced Jeremiah 1:5, where God tells Jeremiah, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you." That means God had a plan for Jeremiah before Jeremiah even existed. How does it make you feel to sit with the

idea that God already knows your purpose -- even the parts you haven't discovered yet? Does that feel comforting, challenging, or maybe both?

3. Digging into the Word

In Galatians 1:15, Paul says God "separated me from my mother's womb and called me." Paul got seriously off track before he stepped into that calling. What does his story tell us about how God handles our detours, delays, and even our outright failures when it comes to fulfilling our calling?

4. Honest Reflection

I talked about how God began to stir up my nest -- making me uncomfortable in my corporate career until I couldn't ignore His direction anymore. Have you ever experienced that kind of holy restlessness or discomfort that, looking back, you think God may have been using to get your attention? What did that feel like, and how did you respond?

5. Practical Challenge

I explained that Romans 11:29 tells us "the gifts and callings of God are irrevocable" -- God doesn't take them back, even when we stall or resist. But I also said you cannot fulfill the call without the power and the obedience of the Holy Spirit. What do you think is the biggest obstacle in your own life right now that keeps you from leaning into your calling -- fear, busyness, not knowing where to start, or something else entirely?

6. Looking Ahead

I said that when I finally yielded to God's direction, my desire completely changed -- what I dreaded became what I actually wanted to do. Have you ever experienced God shifting your desires through prayer or time in His Word? What changed, and what did that teach you about trusting Him with the unknowns?

5. APPLICATION CHALLENGE

This week, set aside 15 uninterrupted minutes on two separate days specifically to pray -- not a prayer list, but a simple, open-handed conversation with God about your calling. Start by reading Romans 8:26-27 out loud, then pray something like: "Holy Spirit, I don't fully know what You've called me to do. I'm asking You to make it clearer. I'm listening." Then sit quietly for at least five minutes. Write down anything that surfaces -- a thought, a nudge, a Scripture, a name, or a feeling of peace or discomfort -- and bring it to your next small group meeting to share.

6. PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for clarity on calling -- that every person in your group would begin to see, even in small ways this week, the specific purpose God has placed on their life.
- Pray for courage to obey -- that when the Holy Spirit stirs something up or points in a direction that feels risky or uncomfortable, each person would have the faith to say yes rather than push it away.
- Pray for a deeper prayer life -- that your group would genuinely hunger to spend more time in the Spirit, and

that praying in and through the Holy Spirit would move from feeling like an obligation to feeling like the lifeline it truly is.

7. MEMORY VERSE

Romans 8:14

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God."

Leader's Tip: If your group has members who are newer to the idea of the Holy Spirit's guidance or praying in the Spirit, create space for their honest questions. This is a topic that can feel unfamiliar or even intimidating. Remind your group that curiosity is welcome, and the goal this week is simply to take one small step toward listening.