

THE SPIRIT'S LEADING

KNOWING WHERE THE SPIRIT WANTS TO GO

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

~ Romans 8:14

1. Who Leads You?

- a. You want a way for God to help with the decisions in your life. Which way?
- b. Everyone's grandma has a picture of Footprints, and a bookmark with Psalm 23
- c. When it is hard and confusing Christians sing Carrie Underwood ... and are ridiculed
- d. God is not driving for you, there is a difference between leading and driving
- e. Everyone is on a course, how do you live? Who leads you?
- f. Led of the world/flesh/devil -Eph 2:1-3,4:18; Led of the Spirit - Rom 8:14

2. Led by the Spirit

- a. The only time we see led of the Spirit it is to be tempted of the devil - Mt 4:1
- b. *"Follow the Spirit's leading", "I felt led to do this", "The Spirit is leading me to say..."*
- c. Led by circumstances, feelings, flesh, desires, dreams is not being led by the Spirit
- d. It is not mysticism: led by intuition, experience, and connection with spiritual unknowns
- e. Being led is being instructed/understanding - Ps 25:5; 27:11; 43:3; 139:24; 143:10
- f. The Spirit's instruction may not be easiest, most peaceful, convenient, coincidental
- g. God gave Israel instructions on how to live - Deu 5:32-33; Prov 3:5-6; 6:23; Isa 48:17
- h. They were led by the law to do the law - Josh 1:7-9, but you are not - Gal 5:18

3. Knowing Where You're Going

- a. Children are led by the hand, adults grow in understanding, knowledge, wisdom
- b. Led of the Spirit is knowing where the Spirit wants to go - God's wants = God's will
- c. The will of God for you - 1 Tim 2:4; 1 Thess 4:3-4; 5:18
- d. Led by the Spirit is receiving wisdom from the Spirit -1 Cor 2:1-7; 2:12-13
- e. Paul prays that they know the Spirit's leading here Col 1:9 and here Eph 1:17-18
- f. You have been predestinated to be conformed to the image of Christ - Rom 8:29
- g. You are instructed to have the mind of Christ - 1 Cor 2:16
- h. There are three (daily) steps to this - Eph 4:21-24
- i. There are steps to maturity, there is growth in Christ, and the Spirit is leading it

4. Letting the Spirit Lead

- a. *"Let go and let God ... letting him do what?"*
- b. The Spirit leads all of us according to the revelation of the mystery
- c. There is a desire that produces a choice to follow/believe what the Spirit instructs
- d. If we live in the Spirit, let us walk in the Spirit - Phil 2:5; Gal 5:25
- e. "Let" means we have a choice to heed his will or do our own.
- f. Therefore, Paul instructs us to "be filled with the Spirit" - Eph 5:18