

Scriptures

John 16: 12-15 (The Message)

¹²⁻¹⁵ “I still have many things to tell you, but you can’t handle them now. But when the Friend comes, the Spirit of the Truth, he will take you by the hand and guide you into all the truth there is. He won’t draw attention to himself, but will make sense out of what is about to happen and, indeed, out of all that I have done and said. He will honor me; he will take from me and deliver it to you. Everything the Father has is also mine. That is why I’ve said, ‘He takes from me and delivers to you.’

Galatians 5:1. 13-25 (NRSVUE)

5 ¹ For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁵ If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶ Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Imagine you're in the middle of an unfamiliar city. You've got a big meeting in 20 minutes, but your GPS loses signal, and suddenly, every street looks the same. You check your phone, and it's dead.

What happens?

Your palms sweat. Your chest tightens. You're on your own.

Or so you think...

Now, imagine a guide appears, someone who knows every street, every turn, every delay, and walks beside you, not just telling you where to go, but gently pointing, pausing when needed, and nudging you forward with confidence. This is not wishful thinking. It's what Jesus promised when He said in John 16:13, "But when the Spirit of truth, comes, you will be guided into all the truth."

This promise? It isn't just for Sunday mornings or prayer retreats. It's for boardrooms. For living rooms. For wherever you stand, wondering what's next, what's right, and what matters. You don't need a better map. You need to trust the Guide within.

In the Old Testament, God's presence was accessed through the temple, a physical place, set apart and sacred. You came to God. You scheduled the interaction. You brought your sacrifice.

But Jesus flipped that in preparing His disciples for a new operating system in which God's presence would no longer be housed in stone walls but in living, breathing people, you and me.

This is more than a theological upgrade. It's a paradigm shift for how we approach everything. Your business strategy is not separate from your spiritual life, and your struggles are not siloed from God's voice. The Holy Spirit doesn't log off after your morning devotional. The Spirit dwells in you, all day, in every room, in every Zoom call.

If you're a founder, a leader, a parent, or someone just trying to figure out what's next, you have access to divine intelligence, emotional clarity, and ethical direction at every moment.

Truth Isn't a Vibe, It's a Voice!

Here's where it gets real. Life doesn't hand us simple answers anymore. We're navigating in a world of data, void of direction and emotion, rich and, yet, wisdom-poor. Everyone's got an opinion, but who's listening?

Today, our scripture reminds us that truth is not just a concept to research; it's a voice to recognize. The Holy Spirit guides us into all truth, not by dumping downloads of doctrine but by walking with us into it. The Greek verb used in early translations here (*hodegēsei*, *pronounced ho-Day-gos*) "guide" here implies leading someone who can't see. That's us, emotionally, spiritually, and sometimes professionally.

But don't confuse silence with absence. If we don't slow down enough to listen, we'll miss the whisper that could change everything.

You might be thinking, "Okay, I get it in theory, but how does this play out in my real life, in the trenches?"

Let's talk business, an area I have a lot of experience with prior to committing to serving as a pastor. In many forums of my work, we were faced with a decision: two potential partners. One offers a scale (how much), the other offers integrity (reputation). One boosts our bottom line, the other aligns with our values. What will it cost? How long will it take?

What do you do?

We would often run a cost-benefit analysis, compare notes, and pick the one that feels most strategic. However, the Spirit-led ones would pause, ask, listen, and obey, even if it costs more upfront. The Spirit of Truth isn't in the business of short-term wins. The Spirit of Truth plays the long game and cares more about who we're becoming than what we're building. That's the uncomfortable truth. And it's also the one that leads to peace, joy, and fruit that will last.

Also, there's another aspect. We like clarity. We dislike waiting. But the Spirit will reveal everything, promising to guide us. That means direction comes in steps, not in blueprints. We won't always get a map, but we'll get a lamp. And sometimes, that's all we need.

Yet...

- In our relationships, when things get murky...
- In our team dynamics, when conflict clouds vision...
- In our heart work, when you're wrestling with identity, shame, or ambition...

The Spirit still guides. no screaming.... only speaking!

Let's talk about emotional tension, when you feel stuck, unsure, restless, or anxious about what comes next.

The feeling? It's human. And it's also your invitation.

The Holy Spirit isn't annoyed by your uncertainty. The Spirit is moved by it.

Because it means we're searching and The Spirit is the One who reveals, in real time, what our soul can't yet see. God desires to be part of our daily journey through life, helping us and guiding us toward what is right. That's not philosophical, it's very practical.

When we don't know what to say in the meeting... When we're unsure if you're parenting well... When we're building a brand, ministry, or life, and we're terrified it's not enough...

We are not alone. We are not directionless. The Spirit is present.

What does this mean for us today?

And here's questions to consider:

- What would shift if we believed that the Spirit of God lives in us and speaks truth for every part of our life?
- What if our prayer life wasn't just our quiet time, but our daily strategy?
- What if our decisions didn't depend on hustle alone, but on holy discernment?
- What if your growth as a person wasn't about consuming more content, but about tuning in to the Counselor already within us?

Pause. Ask. Listen. Obey. That's the cadence of a Spirit-led life.

Let's make this stick. Here's our challenge, if you're up for it:

- Begin each day by asking one question: Holy Spirit, what do you want to say to me today?
- Practice "decision stillness" before key moments, wait for clarity, and do not rush for comfort.
- Journal the whispers, track the nudges, the Scripture verses that pop up, the sense you feel in your gut. That's how discernment grows.
- Pray before meetings, yes, even the business ones. Especially those.
- Anchor to this truth: God's Spirit is with me wherever I go.

Remember, we have access to the most brilliant strategist, comforter, and truth-teller in the universe, not just with you, but in you.

That's not theology. That's our advantage.

Ready to lead from a more bottomless well? Because when Spirit leads, everything changes: our voice, our vision, and our velocity. And friends, the world needs more leaders who know how to listen.

So how do we actually experience this spiritual guidance? It mostly comes through prayer, meditation on scripture, and opening ourselves up for Divine intervention.

In Acts 16:6-7 Paul and his companions were kept by Holy Spirit from preaching in Asia; instead, they were redirected towards Macedonia. While it may seem like a restriction at first glance, it was actually divine guidance leading them exactly where they needed to be.

Finally, remember that being led doesn't necessarily mean having every step mapped out explicitly. Often, it's about walking forward in faith even when full clarity hasn't been granted yet – trusting that God knows best and will guide us as we move along in our journey...together! Amen!