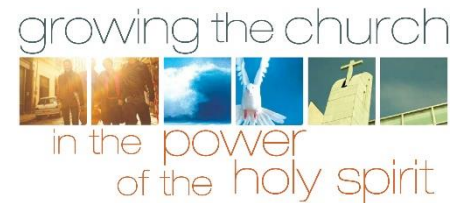


Video 4A

Step #4. Receiving Divine Guidance for Cooperating with the Holy Spirit



Guidance ensures that we engage in Jesus' agenda and not merely our own good ideas. It is the key to our cooperating with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Paul's visit to Philippi and Peter's visit to Cornelius were initiated by revelatory guidance from the Holy Spirit. Scripture is God's foundational, unchangeable revelation, but it also bears witness to the dynamic of his Spirit speaking into situations today, applying doctrine or leading into activities. Individuals and congregations need to become alert to, and engage in the discipline of listening to, the leading of the Holy Spirit of Jesus.

GtC p.159

Spiritual leadership is moving people on to God's agenda.

Henry & Richard Blackaby

God speaks to us through the Bible and the Spirit

Guidance - New Testament examples

- ❖ Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch – Acts 8
- ❖ Ananias and Saul – Acts 9
- ❖ Peter and Cornelius – Acts 10

Conditions for receiving the Holy Spirit's guidance

- ❖ **Incorporation** – born anew into God's Kingdom
- ❖ **Information** – grounded in Scripture
- ❖ **Transformation** – conformed to the will & likeness of Jesus Christ
- ❖ **Empowerment** – receiving the Spirit's various gifts

Nurturing congregations for receiving divine guidance

1. Leaders who listen to the Spirit
 - ❖ Embody the reign of God - Philippians 3:17
 - ❖ Speak of the practicalities
2. Teach people how to listen for the Spirit's guidance
 - ❖ Pictures, dreams and visions : Words : Emotions stirred : 'Nudges'
3. Provide real-life opportunities to practice

The Spirit speaks to guide us, not to entertain us

Listening & obeying leads to hearing more

Ignore guidance, and heaven seems to grow silent