



DIRECTED BY THE *Holy Spirit*

2020
VISION
partners

APRIL 2019

I pray this letter finds you blessed and highly favored in the Lord. Last month when I wrote to you, I shared the importance of not allowing negative emotions to control your life. Although we may at times experience hurt, rejection, anger, and other painful emotions, we should never be governed by how we feel. Instead, we must live by the Word of God and allow the Holy Spirit to guide us through life; that's His assignment.

When you are in search of answers to life's problems, take advantage of the Holy Spirit's guidance; I do. I can't tell you the number of times He's helped me to make the right decisions. I haven't always yielded to His guidance, but I thank God for His tender mercy, loving kindness, and willingness to never give up on me. I am a better man today because I'm more sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Something powerful happens when you make a quality decision to yield to the Spirit of God. You grow spiritually and draw closer to the Father. Not only

that, the Holy Spirit will save you time, money, and energy. He will help make your journey through life sweatless.

If there's anyone worth leaning on completely in these last days, the Holy Spirit is the one. It can sometimes become so easy to rely on our family members, close friends, and mentors for guidance. However, we should never accept the counsel of people over the counsel of the Holy Spirit. People may mean well, but He knows details about life that others may not be privy to.

The Bible says, "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God" (1 Corinthians 2:9, 10).

The "deep things" in this Scripture refer to God's truth, wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. He doesn't want us ignorant of who He is and what He's

made available to us. Hosea 4:6 tells us that lives are destroyed because of a lack of knowledge. God wants to keep us from ruin and that's where the Holy Spirit comes in.

Being led by the Spirit of God is to simply trust Him. Without trust in Him, there can be no true and lasting success; no way to discover the plan God has for your life. I love how Proverbs 3:5, 6, AMPC, reads: "Lean on, trust in, and be confident in the Lord with all your heart and mind and do not rely on your own insight or understanding. In all your ways know, recognize, and acknowledge Him, and He will direct and make straight and plain your paths."

Where's your trust? Is it in your plans or God's? That's something to really consider. If your trust is in the wrong place, your life will be also.

There may be times in life when the pressure of your circumstances weighs so heavily that you decide to solve your problems on your own. You may feel like God isn't listening or that He

doesn't care. Nothing could be further from the truth! He loves you dearly. Your faith may be weak at the moment, but that's when you should seek the Holy Spirit's help like never before. You may feel lost and confused right now, but He's available to comfort and lead you.

Jesus comforted His disciples prior to His death. In a nutshell, He told them, "I've been with you for quite some time now, but it's important that I go away for awhile. While I'm gone, I'll send you the Holy Spirit. Just like me, He'll be your Comforter. He'll be here to teach you the truth about God. He will counsel, help, intercede, and strengthen you when you're weak. So don't worry about a thing" (John 16:7, 13, 14).

You may be wondering, How do I begin following the Holy Spirit's leading? Well, it starts with getting born again by accepting Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior. When a person is not born again, he is considered a natural man, led solely by his natural, human senses. On the other hand, a born-again believer is a spiritual man led by his reborn spirit. It is this man the Holy Spirit bears witness with, or to whom He can reveal God's truth (Proverbs 20:27; 1 Corinthians 2:14).

So, if you're not born-again, don't hesitate another day. Make the spiritual connection with God now! Simply ask Jesus into your heart and to forgive you of your sins. We have all missed the mark at some point, but there comes a time when we must decide on purpose to live wholeheartedly for God.

Along with salvation, meekness is another prerequisite to being led by the Holy Spirit. Psalm 25:9 reads, "The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way." To be meek does not mean to be weak and allow people to take advantage of you. Meekness involves being self-controlled and slow to give or take offense. A meek person is humble and teachable.

Taffi and I have made a decision to position ourselves to remain humble and teachable before God. We've learned that this positions us to hear clearly from the Holy Spirit. It's a good feeling knowing you're in the will of God.

I also attribute our success in life, and ability to be led by the Spirit of God, to our quality decision to live by the Word of God. The Word is the roadmap God gave to help us find our way through life, and the Holy Spirit is our tour guide (Isaiah 48:17). Therefore, God's Word must be the final authority by which you live. The Holy Spirit's responsibility is to help you understand the Word so you can know how to live an effective life.

Now, there are several basic ways to know for sure that you are truly being led by the Holy Spirit. Number one: Whatever He says will be in line with the Word of God; Number two: He will always bring glory to God; Number three: What He says will require you to walk by faith and confidence; Number four: His directions will not only benefit you, but others as well; finally, Number five: His guidance will bring you peace and comfort.

Taffi and I encourage you to live a life directed by the Holy Spirit, not a life driven by circumstances, stress, and emotions. Trust Him with every decision you must make. Start with the small day-to-day decisions concerning your family, relationship with friends and co-workers, and the support you show toward your local church. Pray like you've never prayed before, and take time to listen for a response from the Lord. There's no need to rush when you're praying, especially when you need things to turn around in your life.

I am so excited about what God is doing for you. I'm expecting to hear a tremendous testimony the next time you write in. When you write in to sow your faith seed, believe God for increase and expect results! Remember that Jesus is Lord, and "...In all your getting, get understanding" (Proverbs 4:7, NKJV). In expectation,



Creflo Dollar

P.S. Be sure to take advantage of this month's teaching resource, Do We Really Need God or Can We Live Without Him? Part 1, at:

bit.ly/2Ozu2IX, which I pray will be a great source of encouragement for you. God loves you!

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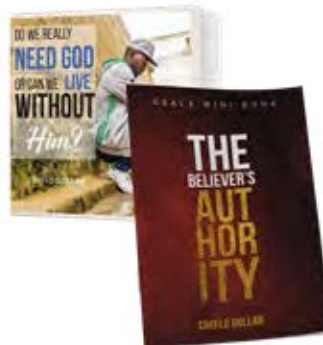
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LED BY **THE HOLY SPIRIT**

I trust in the Lord and He directs my paths.

Proverbs 3:5, 6

I live life guided by the Holy Spirit.

John 16:13, 14

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