

How Does God Guide Us?

1. God promises to guide us.

I will instruct you and show you the way to go; with My eye on you, I will give counsel. Do not be like a horse or mule, without understanding, that must be controlled with bit and bridle or else it will not come near you. Psalm 32:8-9 (HCSB)

a. God has a plan for our lives.

“For I know the plans I have for you”—this is the Lord’s declaration—“plans for your welfare, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.” Jeremiah 29:11 (HCSB)

- i. It doesn't matter where you have been in your life or what you have done. Your heavenly Father wants to restore your life.

Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God. Romans 12:2 (HCSB)

- ii. Misconceptions about God's will and plans. The truth:

Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you your heart's desires. Psalm 37:4 (HCSB)

But as it is written: What eye did not see and ear did not hear, and what never entered the human mind—God prepared this for those who love Him. 1 Corinthians 2:9 (HCSB)

b. God wants to be Included in our decisions!

Woe to the rebellious children! This is the Lord’s declaration. They carry out a plan, but not Mine; they make an alliance, but against My will, piling sin on top of sin. They set out to go down to Egypt without asking My advice, in order to seek shelter under Pharaoh’s protection and take refuge in Egypt’s shadow. Isaiah 30:1-2 (HCSB)

c. Our attitude needs to be one of humility.

He leads the humble in what is right and teaches them His way. Psalm 25:9 (HCSB)

The secret counsel of the Lord is for those who fear Him, and He reveals His covenant to them. Psalm 25:14 (HCSB)

- i. In order for you to receive God's direction you must walk in humility.
- ii. This is a place of submission.
- iii. Surrender your will to the Lord.
- iv. Give Him the right to tell you how to live your life.

2. Is God speaking to us today?

When he has brought all his own outside, he goes ahead of them. The sheep follow him because they recognize his voice. They will never follow a stranger; instead they will run away from him, because they don't recognize the voice of strangers. John 10:4-5 (HCSB)

All sheep know the Lord's voice.
The problem is not that God is not communicating with us,
it is that we are not recognizing His voice.

a. How does God speak to us?

For God speaks time and again, but a person may not notice it. Job 33:14 (HCSB)

- i. Some different ways that the Lord spoke to people in the Bible:
 - Angels
 - Songs
 - Prophets
 - Dreams
 - Parents
 - Face-to-face
 - Still small voice
 - Circumstances
 - Visions

- Through creation, friends, enemies...
- ii. Five categories through which God speaks to us.
 - Commanding scripture
 - Compelling spirit
 - Common sense
 - Counsel of saints
 - Circumstantial signs

b. God's voice is recognized, not by your physical ears, but in your spirit!

- i. Don't be in a hurry.
 - God's guidance may come immediately, but it often takes much longer.
 - Abraham was promised a son by God. It was 25 years before he had his son and he was 100 years old.
- ii. How do I know that what I am hearing is right?
 - Is it God or my own mind?
 - Is it the Spirit of God or another spirit, an evil one?

But solid food is for the mature—for those whose senses have been trained to distinguish between good and evil. Hebrews 5:14 (HCSB)

You cannot sit still and expect to learn anything. Action must take place!

Every generous act and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights; with Him there is no variation or shadow cast by turning. James 1:17 (HCSB)

3. God does not change!

- a.** He is love.
- b.** Not a single word of the law or His commandments shall be done away with.
- c.** So if you think you have heard something from the Lord, but it goes against God's Word or His character, then it isn't from the Lord.

Notes

