

Proverbs 11:14

14 Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

Proverbs 12:15

15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

Proverbs 15:22

22 Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.

Proverbs 19:20

20 Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future.

PAUL WAS JUST BEING PRIDEFUL. HE THINKS HE IS A BIG KNOW IT ALL.

PAUL JUST KNEW THE INNER STIRRINGS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT SO WELL THAT NO MATTER WHAT SOMEONE SAID IT WOULD NEVER OVERRIDE WHAT PAUL KNEW GOD WAS TELLING HIM.

1 Kings 17:2 The word of the LORD came to him, saying, 3 "Go from here and turn eastward, and hide yourself by the Wadi Cherith, which is east of the Jordan.

What we WANT can taint the message from the Holy Spirit.

When our own personal fears and personal agendas get involved.

Not so much based on what God wants.

Acts 21

1 And when we had parted from them and set sail, we came by a straight course to Cos, and the next day to Rhodes, and from there to Patara.

2 And having found a ship crossing to Phoenicia, we went aboard and set sail.

3 When we had come in sight of Cyprus, leaving it on the left we sailed to Syria and landed at Tyre, for there the ship was to unload its cargo.

4 And having sought out the disciples, we stayed there for seven days. And through the Spirit they were telling Paul not to go on to Jerusalem.

Acts 20:22

22 And now, as a captive to the Spirit, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there,

**Pain isn't
the plumb
line**

**Going where
Jesus calls
him is.**

Romans 12:

2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

**We begin to
want what He
wants.**

**Through
His
Word.**

**The Holy
Spirit has
already spoken.**

Romans 12:17

17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody.

**The Holy
Spirit has
already spoken.**

Romans 14:1–4

1 Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters.

2 One man's faith allows him to eat everything, but another man, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables.

3 The man who eats everything must not look down on him who does not, and the man who does not eat everything must not condemn the man who does, for God has accepted him.

4 Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. And he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

**The Holy
Spirit has
already spoken.**

2 Corinthians 6:14

14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?

**The Holy
Spirit has
already spoken.**

2 Corinthians 11:3 But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

4 For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted—you may well put up with it!

**The Holy
Spirit has
already spoken.**

Matthew 28:19

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

**I THINK WE SPEND
SO MUCH TIME
WORRYING ABOUT
THINGS THAT GOD
HAS ALREADY
SPOKEN.**

Romans 12:6–7

**6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith;
7 or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching;**

**HE GAVE YOU
A SPIRITUAL
GIFT SO GO
USE IT!**

**The Holy
Spirit has
already spoken.**

**MOST ANSWERS
IN LIFE HAVE
ALREADY BEEN
ANSWERED BY
THE HOLY
SPIRIT.**

JD Gear - Jesus Continued - Let me tell you a story about a time I (evidently) got it wrong. After my wife and I had three kids, we sought God about whether to have more. At three kids, I felt like my quiver was full. At no point in the week did I feel like I needed more to do or another mouth to feed. But we also knew that rearing godly children is among the greatest ministries you can have (Ps. 127:1–4), so we thought, “Well, why not have one more—for Jesus?” God had also touched our hearts for regarding adoption, and so we prayed about whether we should do that, too. We set aside a day—April 28, 2009—for a time of prayer and fasting.

At the end of that day, we both felt that God was leading us to pursue an international adoption. But when Veronica woke up the next morning, however, she felt sick... and yep, you guessed it: she was pregnant. I don’t think I’ve ever had a prayer answered that quickly, that definitively. While we were seeking God about what to do next, the answer had been (unbeknownst to us) growing inside of Veronica for nearly six weeks.

But what about the “sense” that our next kid was to come through international adoption? Maybe that’s something we are supposed to pursue later, but it was not what God had for us at the moment. After that experience, we contributed personally to several other families in our church pursuing adoption. The “sense” that we were to do it in 2009 was overruled, however, by, well, God’s definitive answer in our circumstances.

That’s one of the reasons I say you should always hold what you think God is “saying” to you loosely. God simply did not outline for us in Scripture a definitive way to know

(with absolutely certainty) that he is moving in our spirits about something. I've searched every passage in the Bible related to that topic, looking for the definitive answer. There is none. So when it comes to areas of life not spelled out by Scripture, while we can strongly suspect something to be God's will, and act boldly in pursuit of it, we should always stop short of the absolute certainty we give to Scripture.

5 When our days there were ended, we departed and went on our journey, and they all, with wives and children, accompanied us until we were outside the city. And kneeling down on the beach, we prayed

6 and said farewell to one another. Then we went on board the ship, and they returned home.

7 When we had finished the voyage from Tyre, we arrived at Ptolemais, and we greeted the brothers and stayed with them for one day.

8 On the next day we departed and came to Caesarea, and we entered the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him.

9 He had four unmarried daughters, who prophesied.

10 While we were staying for many days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea.

11 And coming to us, he took Paul's belt and bound his own feet and hands and said, "Thus says the Holy Spirit, 'This is how the Jews at Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.' "

12 When we heard this, we and the people there urged him not to go up to Jerusalem.

13 Then Paul answered, "What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be imprisoned but even to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus."

14 And since he would not be persuaded, we ceased and said, "Let the will of the Lord be done."

15 After these days we got ready and went up to Jerusalem.

16 And some of the disciples from Caesarea went with us, bringing us to the house of Mnason of Cyprus, an early disciple, with whom we should lodge.

17 When we had come to Jerusalem, the brothers received us gladly.

18 On the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present.

19 After greeting them, he related one by one the things that God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry.

20 And when they heard it, they glorified God. And they said to him, "You see, brother, how many thousands there are among the Jews of those who have believed. They are all zealous for the law,

21 and they have been told about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children or walk according to our customs.

22 What then is to be done? They will certainly hear that you have come.

Slander is usually an attack on someone trying to accomplish something. So, the only way to avoid it is to do nothing and be nothing. But where there's friction there's motion, and some will be rubbed the wrong way.

Luke 7:34

34 The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look, a glutton and a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'

Denied the
report.

Let God handle
it.

Psalm 31:13–15

**13 For I hear the slander of many; Fear is on every side;
While they take counsel together against me, They scheme
to take away my life.**

**14 But as for me, I trust in You, O LORD; I say, “You are my
God.”**

**15 My times are in Your hand; Deliver me from the hand of
my enemies, And from those who persecute me.**

Psalm 27:11–13

**11 Teach me Your way, O LORD, And lead me in a smooth
path, because of my enemies.**

**12 Do not deliver me to the will of my adversaries; For
false witnesses have risen against me, And such as
breathe out violence.**

**13 I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I
would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the
living.**

Stop
believing
things
you hear.

**23 Do therefore what we tell you. We have four men who
are under a vow;**

**24 take these men and purify yourself along with them and
pay their expenses, so that they may shave their heads.
Thus all will know that there is nothing in what they have
been told about you, but that you yourself also live in
observance of the law.**

**25 But as for the Gentiles who have believed, we have sent
a letter with our judgment that they should abstain from
what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and**

from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality.”

26 Then Paul took the men, and the next day he purified himself along with them and went into the temple, giving notice when the days of purification would be fulfilled and the offering presented for each one of them.

27 When the seven days were almost completed, the Jews from Asia, seeing him in the temple, stirred up the whole crowd and laid hands on him,

28 crying out, “Men of Israel, help! This is the man who is teaching everyone everywhere against the people and the law and this place. Moreover, he even brought Greeks into the temple and has defiled this holy place.”

29 For they had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian with him in the city, and they supposed that Paul had brought him into the temple.

30 Then all the city was stirred up, and the people ran together. They seized Paul and dragged him out of the temple, and at once the gates were shut.

31 And as they were seeking to kill him, word came to the tribune of the cohort that all Jerusalem was in confusion.

32 He at once took soldiers and centurions and ran down to them. And when they saw the tribune and the soldiers, they stopped beating Paul.

33 Then the tribune came up and arrested him and ordered him to be bound with two chains. He inquired who he was and what he had done.

34 Some in the crowd were shouting one thing, some another. And as he could not learn the facts because of the uproar, he ordered him to be brought into the barracks.

35 And when he came to the steps, he was actually carried by the soldiers because of the violence of the crowd,

36 for the mob of the people followed, crying out, “Away with him!”

37 As Paul was about to be brought into the barracks, he said to the tribune, “May I say something to you?” And he said, “Do you know Greek?”

38 Are you not the Egyptian, then, who recently stirred up a revolt and led the four thousand men of the Assassins out into the wilderness?"

39 Paul replied, "I am a Jew, from Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of no obscure city. I beg you, permit me to speak to the people."

**When we focus
on the eternal
and not the
temporal I think
it hurts less.**

**"Yes. If you kill a
man, you've killed
him. He's gone. If you
slander him, try to
deceitfully destroy
his reputation, you
have killed him while
he yet lives".**

**EXPECT IT.
DENY IT.
LET GOD
HANDLE IT.**

**Psalm 31:14 But as for me, I trust in You, O LORD; I say,
"You are my God."**

**Psalm 27:13 I would have lost heart, unless I had believed
That I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of
the living.**