

Live by the Spirit

In these tumultuous times, we may think our eyes and ears are deceiving us. We feel as though what we taste, touch and feel just aren't the same. Our five senses seem rather dulled or dim up against what is taking place in our world on a daily basis. How many times lately have you said to yourself or others, "I can't believe what I just heard"? Then there are the unspeakable things we see on the news that make it hard for us to see and fathom such evil running rampant.

This is when you must learn to live by the Holy Spirit of God, who lives within you. The Holy Spirit will lead you into all truth. Live by the Spirit and be led by the Spirit. With so much deception and corruption playing out before your eyes every day, you need to truly understand who the Holy Spirit is.

In John 14:16-17, 26 (NKJV) Jesus says, "And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. ... But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you."

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Now here is something to live by and be led by: "When He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth, for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever he hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare *it* to you" (John

16:13-15).

In today's vernacular, this means that when the Holy Spirit lives in you, you will have access to downloads of His truth. You will know the way to walk, the words to speak and the things to avoid that have come to deceive you. You will be comforted, for He is the Comforter, which, when translated literally, means "called to one's side" for help.

Jesus knew how much we would need the Holy Spirit's truth and comfort, especially in these last days, when our five senses are overwhelmed and seem to be failing us or we cannot comprehend the magnitude of it all.

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This is when we walk by faith and not by sight. We must fix our eyes on what is eternal. Adopting an eternal perspective means we can feel at home in both worlds. "So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal" (2 Cor. 4:18, NIV).

When you walk by faith, not sight, it makes you more engaged with the world around you because you start to look at people through spiritual eyes. You see others as part of a reality that has eternal significance. Your worldly view of people is gone, replaced with a genuine concern for them and their eternal future. Walking by faith helps you to truly see and hear people, perhaps for the very first time. "We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God" (2 Cor. 5:20).

When we look now at this world through the eyes of the Holy Spirit, we perceive our reality differently, seeing what really counts in this earthly life. As followers of Christ, we

have the victory. Whether we are here in our flesh suit or away from it, God looks after us well.

So lay your burdens at His feet. See the world through spiritual eyes. The world is changing day by day, but God changes not. There is no substitute for faith in the life of a believer. You can be at home in both worlds as long as you live by the Spirit and allow Him to change your perspective to faithful, eternally minded "double vision."

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