

Discernment Practices – Review

Get Rid of the Clutter and Chatter (Turmoil)

In order to hear God's voice, we must turn off the clatter and turmoil that is forever trying to vie for first place in our minds. Well, you may ask I don't see how this can ever stop. There are so many ideas and thoughts and chatter continually going on in my brain...

Ask God to help you become quiet before Him and to enable you take this peace with you wherever you go. God will meet you. A good way to start stepping into the stream of discernment is to try to settle yourself inside, but be assured the fleshly thoughts will start coming.

At this point you need to begin to pray by speaking scripture verses or singing or praying for others or in tongues. Do this for just a little while at first. Keep your mind on the present. Do not think about other things. Live in the moment. Do not be bound by worries and time. Let it go. God has more for you...

Cover Other's Nakedness

To walk with the Holy Spirit at heartbeat's closeness we need to practice agape love. This is a type of love that watches out for his brother. It is a love that does not talk about others behind their backs. It is a love, which does not gossip. It is a love, which does not expose other's faults. It is a love that wishes the best for each individual.

We cannot all be ears. We cannot all be eyes. We cannot all be hands. We cannot all be feet in the body of Christ. But we are all commanded to treat others with the utmost care and concern.

If we talk about others in a manner which is less than full love, the Holy Spirit will not be able to come through to you in the way which is most powerful – where you can hear that still small voice as your helper and comforter in all that you do.

Worship

Worship is our highest calling. I believe our ability to do great exploits and have strength in this world is based on our worship of God. God desires pure worship. We should come to a point in our lives where we want to worship often and with passion.

Worship expands our being so that even our every breath becomes as praise to the Lord. We need to be cognizant of the fact that our every action is appraised of the Spirit. When we eat we are worshipping God. When we play we are worshipping God. When we socialize we are worshipping God. When we work we are worshipping God. Each and everything we do should be a manifestation and extension of our love and devotion to Him.

Music, not just any music is a part of true worship. Spirit Music is an extremely powerful vehicle of spiritual warfare. All humans are designed for music. It does not have to be top 40 perfect in order to release God's powerful protective shield for you. As you walk in worship your soul will manifest of being in the presence of God with the accompanying fruits of the spirit.

Pray

Prayer is our connection to God. Prayer connects us to God's divine enablement. We must pray at all times. Everything we do should be as a prayer to God, when we pet a cat, when we walk our dog, when we paint our house, when we study our schoolwork, and when we go to our job. All beings need to be aware of the presence of God manifesting around and about in the moment.

A personal prayer life must be developed in order to form a relationship with the Heavenly Father. Jesus tells us to pray in secret. What we do in secret will be rewarded openly. We are not to go around boasting of all the time we spend with God. God sees it and He will REWARD us openly.

After some time is spent pursuing the presence of God in your life, God will begin to reveal His still, small voice to you. It is NOTHING you can think up. It is entirely separate. God will let you know. Listen. The Maker for this designed you. It is not a fantasy.

Tithe

Many people resist tithing because it is commanded in the Old Testament. The whole Bible is ours today. The promises are for now. Yes, we are under grace, but if you truly want to experience the fullness of God in every way in your life you must tithe.

God promises to open us the windows of heaven and pour us out a blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it.

I truly get excited to tithe. I know God is watching. It is incredible to see the hand of providence move in unbelievable ways – not just finances but in relationship with Him, divine protection, and divine enablement,

People who resist tithing are hurting and limiting themselves. God wants to bless us. This is the avenue God tests our allegiance in this world. Is our allegiance to Him or is it to money and the fear of not having enough?

Purpose

It is my hope that the Holy Spirit will bless everyone who looks at or even touches this book beyond measure. The Holy Spirit is deeply concerned with each of our lives. He cares about everything we say, think, or do. He cares about decisions we are about to make, and will make.

God has given us everything we need for life here on earth. We are not separate from Him. He is right here with us. He is right here with us now. He wants to make His will known to us in a very personal way. We all are receptors for God's love if we will simply allow and accept it to flow within our lives.

All believers can be blessed from a real touch of God abiding in their lives.

Epilogue

To walk in Discernment we need to remember the words of the Old Testament "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth but you shall meditate therein day and night that you may observe to do all that is written therein for then you will make your way prosperous and then you will have good success. Joshua 1:8.

God wants our lives to be full and prosperous. I don't know about you but I would like to be prosperous and have good success. If we are to press in to the greater things that God has for each and every one of us, we need to make it a priority to study and think about His word on a daily basis. If we could only know and apprehend what the spirit realm looks like when we begin to wield the sword of the spirit, I believe we would all make a practice of reading scripture as much as possible. Being with God should not be some sort of drudgery or something that just has to be done. I believe God is calling each one of us to a point where we need communion with

Him for everything even actions as simple as getting into your car and taking a drive to circumstances that

are beyond our natural abilities. God wants to be the main part of everything we do, say, and feel. I believe that we begin to initiate this process by reading scriptures. Maybe we could just take a verse or two and commit it to memory and think about it throughout the day or week. After all, God has already drawn us to Himself. He is overwhelmingly delighted when we reach out for Him. As He sees us looking up and asking for His divine help and assistance He takes our hand and touches and turns our human efforts into spiritual dynamite. We however need to know that what we are doing is God's will for us. When indeed what we are doing is His will, generally there will not be a lot of blockages to your efforts. If you find a lot of resistance and frustration, you are going to need to keep pressing in and pressing on. Perhaps your efforts may not yet be in God's timing and you may need to wait on Him and pray it through. God has something wonderful and marvelous in store for you. After all, eye has not seen nor ear heard all that God has prepared for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose. 1 Corinthians 2:9.

To walk in discernment scripture says to "Study to show yourself approved unto God a workman that needeth not be ashamed rightly

dividing the word of truth. II Timothy 2:15. God stands beside us as a mighty warrior. God wants us to be knowledgeable about His Word. We are to be gentle as doves yet wise as serpents. When we study His word, we allow Him to metamorphosis every molecule and fiber of our being. We become strong. He replaces our brass for gold and our iron for silver and our wood for brass and our stones for iron. Isaiah 60:17. We are not meant to be something the devil wipes around. We are meant to be bold and courageous, full of might and power.

We are lights in the world. We need to know and understand our Jesus. We need to reflect his character and countenance. This happens by studying the Word. If we cannot direct our circumstances to headline under the promises in the Word aren't we a bit under prepared? When we encounter difficult circumstances we need to be able to go and stand on what God has to say. We cannot take refuge in what we see or feel. We must learn to maneuver in the spirit. When we practice standing on His word and speaking it into our

circumstances or desires, truth is set into motion. The word is immutable. When something seems too much or too overwhelming,

God says there is nothing too big for Him. Scripture says, "If you abide in Me and My word abides in you, you will ask what you desire and it shall be done for you. John 15:7.

I believe God wants us to be able to divide the word of truth so that we can be strengthened in both prosperity and adversity and not crumble under the weight of either as He leads us along the top of the high cliffs in our life. Studying and meditating are forms of spiritual as well as natural discipline. The Lord is trying to develop the fruit of discipline in the believer's life today. Do you commit a time every day to study the word of God? It is very important to cultivate this habit. For this is where power for discernment resides.

We must believe that the Word of God is our divine enablement. It can see us through the most difficult, dangerous, and trying circumstances. For all scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped unto every good work. II Timothy 3:16. If our heart is right

as we enter into a tenuous place, we will come out all right. For greater is He who is in us than he who is in the world.

The Word of God gives direction for our lives. It tells us that this is indeed the way and to walk in it. God promises that He will guide us along the best pathway for our lives. He promises to advise us and closely watch our progress. And yes, as we are learning there will be times when God needs to pick us up, dust us off, and set us back on the right path. This should not discourage us. It should comfort us that when we don't know the way, He does. We will not miss His will for our lives if we are truly seeking Him. He loves us more than anything. And if you are ever feeling frustrated sometimes it may be our flesh's desires. Why would you possibly want something that the God of the whole universe doesn't want for you? He has something wonderful for each of us. And we need to appreciate that. How strange it would be if everyone were an ear or a hand. We desperately need diversity.

A weight lifter in training does not train once in a while, but works out consistently and on a daily basis in order to gain excellence. How can we expect as practicing Christians to "get by" with less if we

intend to live a life of abundance and victory? We must surpass the pull of the flesh and our natural self to the easy state of laziness. It is sad to say, but once you are in the middle of a situation or temptation

or anything it is too late to dig for the power verses, you need to be prepared. You need to have the power verses on the tip of your tongue and be ready to speak them out over your situation. Yes, you can still call on the Name of Jesus, but it will be another trek around the mountain. I don't know about you but I want to go forward. I want to occupy the land the Lord promised my ancestors and your ancestors and their descendants.

God wants you to keep His fire kindled. Scripture says, "I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you for God has not given us a spirit of fear but of power and of love and of a sound mind. II Timothy 1:7. Our hearts desire should be to move in the power of His love. How long has it really been since you felt the fire and presence of God within you? God won't rekindle the gift for us. It is already there. We must make the initiative. We have to step out and ask for divine assistance. Believers are happy when God uses them

for some greater purpose than themselves. We need to live our life for others in order to take pleasure in life ourselves. It is in dying to the flesh that we are born to new life and life overflowing. What gift is lying dormant deep inside your heart, just waiting for you to open and explore it?

What prophecy was given over you? Look up. Look up. Use what God has given you and He will give you more. It is an endless flow and wealth of creativity and boldness. You may do things you have never done before. What joy will fill you heart! There are so many gifts that God wants to give us. We just have to be willing to open them.