HOW TO BE LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

The spirit of man is the lamp of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly – Proverbs 20:27
Kenneth Erwin Hagin  
(August 2nd, 1917 to September 19, 2003)  

Kenneth E. Hagin is one of the patriarchs of the faith movement, also known as the Word of Faith (see Romans 10:8). Many of his friends, congregants, and students often referred to him affectionately as "Dad Hagin", "Papa Hagin", or "Brother Hagin".

He was born with a deformed heart and an incurable blood disease. He was not expected to live and at age 15 became paralyzed and bedridden. During a dramatic conversion experience, he died, due to the deformed heart, three times within 10 minutes, each time seeing the horrors of hell and then returning to life. He remained paralyzed after being born again for a short time.

Then on August 8, 1934, after sixteen months being bedridden, he was raised from his deathbed by a revelation of "faith in God's Word" after reading Mark 11:23-24. It was his belief that these Scriptures meant exactly what they say, and that enabled him to act upon them in simple faith and he rose up completely healed.

A while afterward the Lord called him to “go and teach My people faith”. The fulfilling of this calling spanned more than fifty years with emphasis on the complete integrity of God’s Word.

Hagin was pastor in several churches and became well known and well sought after as a teacher of the Word. He also operated in the prophetic and apostolic anointing.

Hagin founded RHEMA Bible Training College (RBTC) in 1974. RBTC is a worldwide Bible institute located on 110 acres in Broken Arrow, a suburb of Tulsa, Oklahoma. The curriculum is taught from a Charismatic/Pentecostal heritage. There are seven ministry concentrations specializing in Children’s Ministry, Youth Ministry, Evangelism, Pastoral Care, Missions, Biblical Studies, and Supportive Ministry. RBTC has also established training centers in Austria, Brazil, Colombia, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico,
Peru, Romania, Singapore, South Africa, the South Pacific, Thailand, Nigeria, Zambia, Egypt, and the Philippines.

After Hagin's death in 2003, his son Kenneth W. Hagin continued to run the institution. RBTC has trained over 40,000 graduates who reside, and minister, in 52 countries.


Find the six sessions of this curriculum at https://www.agapefaulth.com/holyspirit/
This is also available on YouTube as How to be led by the Holy Spirit 2. This teaching is in the public domain. This study guide is not for sale.
INTRODUCTION

This curriculum study will show you how to be led by the Holy Spirit. We are taught that as children of God, joint heirs with Christ, that we are to be led by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit bears witness with our spirits that we are sons of God. This confirms that as believers, we have a spirit. As such, our spirit becomes the lamp of the Lord, and we can be led by the Holy Spirit.

Man indeed has a body, soul and a spirit. Before we came to Christ, we were sinners, and our spirits were unregenerate. When we confessed Jesus as Lord and believed that God raised Him from the dead, our spirits came alive, to wit: we were born again! When we were born again the Holy Spirit came and dwelt within us. Not our bodies nor our souls (mind, will and emotions) were born again.

Because we have lived for a time in this fallen world and based our decisions upon our worldly feelings and/or intellect, our flesh does not want our spirits to dominate once we became new creatures in Christ. Therefore we have to deal with our souls by renewing our minds daily through the Word of God.

Once we allow our spirits to dominate us, we walk in the will of God which is to love Him with all our hearts, with all our souls, all our minds and all our strength...and we are to love our neighbor as ourselves. Dr. Hagin shows us that all the laws, commandments & the prophets hang upon keeping and walking in this one word: agape.

As we put the Word first, meditating on it and beginning to practice it as a lifestyle, our spirits are fed and become a safe and authoritative guide. Keeping the Word first helps us to navigate through distractions, and/or fallacies that are not in line with God’s Word. Then we will know clearly when the Holy Spirit speaks to our spirits, and this is then translated to our souls and bodies for action. The Word and the Spirit agree as one.

In this study Dr. Hagin reveals that the primary way that we are led by the Holy Spirit is through the inward witness. He explains this inward witness and how we connect to it. This, then, is the primary focus of this study. Other ways we are led are by the voice of the Holy Spirit and by spiritual visions or visitations. In each of these Dr. Hagin provides sound wisdom to understand and hear or see clearly what the Spirit is saying to His children.

This is truly a most profitable teaching for those saints whose desire is to get off the constant “roller coaster ride” of mountain tops followed by too many valleys in their lives. It also encourages those already initiated to dig much deeper and extend and enhance their relationship with the Holy Spirit and to be completely assured of God’s direction and calling in their lives.
LIFE GROUP DIRECTION

This teaching has been specifically formatted for Life Groups (Small Groups). It consists of one DVD of a 1-1/2 hours in length YouTube video that is segmented into six session. This teaching is in the public domain, and the DVD is not for sale. This curriculum includes this Study Guide which is also available at www.agapefaith.com. The YouTube teaching, divided into six sessions to facilitate watching in small groups, is also available at www.agapefaith.com. All Life Group Leaders are blessed with the associated book, authored by Dr. Hagin entitled, HOW YOU CAN BE LED BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD.

Life Group Leaders and Hosts should be adequately prepared having studied each session before meeting with their group, making notes accordingly. They should pray ahead of time for the anointing and revelation of what is to be presented. They should pray and speak divine protection against the enemy who would disrupt, distract or cause doubt. They should thank God that the lives of each person attending will be changed; aligned with the will of God, in the name of Jesus.

OPTIMUM MEETING FLOW

- **FELLOWSHIP**
- Begin each meeting reading aloud a prayer and worship Scripture
- Sing a praise and worship song
- Watch the DVD session
- Discuss
- End in prayer of THANKSGIVING!
SESSION 1  THE SPIRIT OF A MAN IS THE LAMP OF THE LORD

PREPARE TO RECEIVE

In your group, begin with prayer and sing a praise and worship song or hymn. Pray that all hearts will be open to receive the incorruptible seed, the Word of God. Pray that everyone will be changed according to the will of God in their lives.

Prayer Scripture (read aloud before prayer)

Ephesians 6:18

“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;” (KJV)

Worship Scripture (read aloud before praise & worship)

Psalm 5:7

“Because of your unfailing love, I can enter your house; I will worship at your Temple with deepest awe.” (NLT)

WATCH SESSION 1 – 20 minutes, 49 seconds

Summary - In this first session, Dr. Hagin reveals three scripture references that are important in helping us to understand how we can be led by the Holy Spirit. They are Romans 8:14, 8:16 and Proverbs 20:27. These are foundational to this teaching.

These verses indicate that God will enlighten us through our spirits. Man is a spirit being. Made in the image of God, man is a spirit, he has a soul and he lives in a physical body, as stated in 1 Thessalonians 5:23, “Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Our soul is our mind, will and emotions. Christians can become confused when trying to be led through mental assent; that is, through our soul. Nowhere in the Bible does God say that our souls are born again, or that we are led through our souls. The Word of God helps us understand this distinction between spirit and soul, as is stated in Hebrews 4:12, “For the word of God is sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit…”

Paul wrote in Philippians 1:23, 24, “For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better: Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you.” The flesh is a reference to his physical body and soulish desires. Paul knew that it would be better to continue his mission on earth, remaining in a physical body, even though for himself, it would be far better to be
with Jesus. Paul knew that he would live forever, but not in his physical, earthly body.

In addressing the body of Christ, James wrote in 1:21, “Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.” This tells us that our souls (mind, will & emotions) must be dealt with. Our souls are not born again. Our souls are to be saved, or renewed, or restored by the engrafted word of God, but it’s up to us to be consistently diligent in this effort.

Consider that James is speaking to born-again Christians and he is telling them to save their souls. They, themselves, must do this.

In Romans 12:1-2 Paul was beseeching the church in Rome (and to us also today), by the mercies of God, to present their bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto the Lord, which is only reasonable to do. We should do this, because our bodies were not “born again”. He goes on to say that we should be transformed by the renewing of our minds. Psalm 23 speaks of our souls being restored. Again, this is up to us enable through a regular diet of feeding on the Word.

In John 3:6, Jesus said, “That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.” So it is our spirit that is born again, not our soul.

We are spirit beings. Yet, we live in a body and have a soul. But it is through our spirits that we communicate with the Holy Spirit. We cannot contact the spiritual world with our minds, nor can we contact it with our bodies.

Paul wrote in 2nd Corinthians 5:17, “Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new.” This means that the inward man, not the outward man, has become a new man. This new man still has the same body, yet he is new; his spirit is new.

We don’t need to “die to self”, as some may think. We actually just need to crucify the flesh so we can present our bodies to God.

It is our self that was made into a new creature when we were born again. We became a new self. Thus, the nature of God, the love of God, and the life of God abides in us.

It is this inward man that is to be the dominant one. This is not something God does for us. It is something that we need to do for ourselves.

And it is through this inward man that God will guide us. So how does God guide us?

The primary way that God guides ALL of His children is through the inward witness.

Romans 8:16 says, “The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are indeed children of God,”

Dr. Hagin explains the difference between an Old Testament prophet and a prophet operating under the New Covenant. Today’s prophet only confirms what the Holy Spirit has said to us. We have the Holy Ghost today, so we don’t need to be guided by a prophet. The Holy Spirit will do that, but today’s prophet, properly established, will certainly confirm what the Holy Spirit is saying to us.

Notice that the prophet Agabus in Acts 21 did not give guidance to or lead Paul, but rather foretold what was to come. This prophesy was already cemented in Paul’s
heart. The prophet confirmed what Paul had in his heart. Paul had an inward witness with regard to the prophecy. The second witness is the inward voice. Our inward man has a voice. This is your own spirit speaking to you. Your own spirit is hearing from the Holy Spirit who speaks more authoritatively. Your spirit is simply voicing inwardly what it hears from the Holy Spirit. We will learn more about this inward voice in Session 2.

REFERENCED & SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES

Romans 8:14
“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.” (NKJV)

Romans 8:16
“The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,” (NKJV)

Proverbs 20:27
“The spirit of a man is the lamp of the Lord, searching all the inner depths of his heart.” (NKJV)

1 Thessalonians 5:23
“Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (NKJV)

Hebrews 4:12
“For the word of God is sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” (NKJV)

Philippians 1:23-24
“For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you.” NKJV

James 1:21
“Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.” NKJV

Romans 12:1-2
“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” (NKJV)
2nd Corinthians 4:16
“This is why we do not lose courage. Though our outer self is heading for decay, our inner self is being renewed daily.” (Complete Jewish Bible)

Psalm 23:3
“He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.” (NKJV)

John 3:5-6
“Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.”

2nd Corinthians 5:17
“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold all things have become new.” NKJV

Acts 21:10-13
“And as we stayed many days, a certain prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. When he had come to us, he took Paul’s belt and bound his own hands and feet, and said, “Thus says the Holy Spirit, ‘So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man who owns this belt, and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.’” Now when we heard these things, both we and those from that place pleaded with him not to go up to Jerusalem. Then Paul answered, “What do you mean by weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.” (NKJV)

GROUP QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

1. Describe the differences between spirit, soul & body.
2. Read Romans 8:14, Romans 8:16 and Proverbs 20:27. Discuss how and why we are to be led by God.
3. What happens when we are “born again” (the second birth)?
4. Read John 4:24. Why is it that the Holy Spirit speaks directly to us individually through our spirits, and not our minds?
5. Read Romans 12:2, James 1:21 & Philippians 2:12. What are we supposed to do regarding our souls (mind, will & emotions)?
6. Now that we have the Holy Spirit dwelling within us, discuss the difference between the office of the prophet under the Old Covenant compared to this important office under the New Covenant.
7. What impacted you the most in this session?

MEMORY SCRIPTURE

“The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly.” Proverbs 20:27 (KJV)
PREPARE TO RECEIVE

In your group, begin with prayer and sing a praise and worship song or hymn. Pray that all hearts will be open to receive the incorruptible seed, the Word of God. Pray that everyone will be changed according to the will of God in their lives.

Prayer Scripture (read aloud before prayer)

Hebrews 5:7

“During the days of Jesus’ life on earth, He offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the One who could save Him from death, and He was heard because of His reverent submission.” (NIV)

Worship Scripture (read aloud before praise & worship)

Psalm 29:2

“Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.” (KJV)

WATCH SESSION 2 – 16 minutes, 59 seconds

Summary – The inward man has a voice, just like the outward man has a voice. We call the voice of the inward man: our conscience. As a child of God, your conscience is the voice of your spirit. Your conscience is a safe guide, provided your spirit has become new (born again). If your spirit has become a new man in Christ, old things have passed away in your spirit, and ALL things have become new – that is, in your spirit (in your inward man). Your conscience is the voice of that new man.

The spirit of a person who is not born again is unregenerate. His conscience would permit him to do anything. When we have the nature and life of God residing on the inside of us, our conscience will not allow us to just do anything without speaking up.

There is a difference between being born of the Spirit and being filled with the Spirit. If you are born of the Spirit, then the Holy Spirit is abiding in your spirit. He does not communicate directly with your mind, because he’s not in your mind. He communicates with you through your spirit.

Dr. Hagin asks the question, “Is it safe to follow that inward man?”

In Jeremiah 31:33, For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel, after those days, saith Jehovah: I will put my law (note that law is singular) in their inward parts (that is, spirits; inward man; inward parts of the belly; inner most being), and will
write it in their heart; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”
Remember one of our foundational Scriptures: “The spirit of man is the lamp of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly.” – Proverbs 20:27.
Paul wrote in 1 Thessalonians 5:23, “Now may the God of peace
Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit (the inward man), soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”
In John 7:37-38, it is written, “Now on the final and most important
day of the Feast, Jesus stood, and He cried in a loud voice, If any man
is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink!
He who believes in Me [who cleaves to and trusts in and relies on Me] as the Scripture has said, From his innermost being shall flow [continuously] springs and rivers of living water.”
Hebrews 8:10 says (quoting Jeremiah 31:33), For this is the covenant
that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:”
This is quoted again in Hebrews 10:16, “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;”
The author of Hebrews is writing to born again Jews, who remember
the laws, such as the 10 Commandments which was written on tablets of stone. But now, under the New Covenant, God’s law is written in the heart (spirit; conscience of the born again believer).
In John 13:34-35, Jesus said, “A new commandment I give unto you,
That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have
love one to another.”
Romans 13:8 says, “Owe no man any thing (this doesn’t mean do not go into debt, for if you lent to a person, you’d help that person do wrong, if this referred strictly to finances), but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.”
We don’t owe any many anything, but to love him. Continuing with Romans 13:9-10, the Word says, “For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.
Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of
the law.”
When we are walking in God’s love, we will not do those things listed in Romans 13:9-10. We will not need to follow the 10 Commandments, because we will not break them anyway since we’re walking in the love of God.
Remember, God’s love has been shed abroad in our hearts. Romans 5:5 says, “And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.” That law, the law of God’s love, is written in our hearts. All we have to do is listen to our hearts (spirits; consciences). Remember, love worketh no ill to his neighbor. Love is the fulfilling of the law – you won’t need any other commandment.

REFERENCED SCRIPTURES

Jeremiah 31:33
“But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God and they shall be My people.” (NKJV)

John 7:37-38
“He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” (NKJV)

Hebrews 8:10
“For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God and they shall be My people.” (NKJV)

Hebrews 10:16
“This is the covenant that will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws into their hearts and in their minds I will write them,” (NKJV)

John 13:34-35
“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” (NKJV)

Romans 13:8-10
“Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.” (KJV)

Romans 5:5
“And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given to us.” (KJV)

GROUP QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

1. Read Jeremiah 31:33 in the King James Version. Now that the New Covenant has been cut, how does this relate to God’s statement about the spirit of a man in Proverbs 20:27?
2. Read what Jesus said in John 13:34-35. Why does Jesus make this commandment?

3. Read Hebrews 10:16 and Romans 5:5. Under the New Covenant, discuss the union between our spirits and our hearts (not our souls) in these Scriptures where God is placing His law. Where is it that the Holy Ghost gives us this “law of love”?

4. Read Romans 13:9-10. Discuss how this one commandment of love (agape) fulfills the “law”.

5. Discuss how the voice of the inward man (our born again spirit) is our conscience and becomes a safe guide?

MEMORY SCRIPTURE

“And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us.” – Romans 5:5 (KJV)
PREPARE TO RECEIVE

In your group, begin with prayer and sing a praise and worship song or hymn. Pray that all hearts will be open to receive the incorruptible seed, the Word of God. Pray that everyone will be changed according to the will of God in their lives.

Prayer Scripture (read aloud before prayer)

Romans 12:12

“12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.” (NIV)

Worship Scripture (read aloud before praise & worship)

Ephesians 5:19

“19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;” (KJV)

WATCH SESSION 3 – 11 minutes, 20 seconds

Summary – In Matthew 22:34-40, Jesus is answering a question posed by the Pharisees, who are trying to trip Him up. One of them asks, “Master, what is the greatest commandment in the law?” In Jesus’ answer we see that there is only the commandment – the commandment of love (agape); which is to love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and to love thy neighbor as thyself. Then Jesus added, “On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.” As a born again believer, we do not need any other laws or commandments. We all should see to it that we walk in love daily.

In Galatians 5:14, we read, “For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.” As a born again believer, the love of God has been shed abroad by the Holy Ghost (Romans 5:5). This law is written on our hearts. So we should obey our heart. It is a fruit of the Spirit and thus can grow.

1 Corinthians 13 includes God’s definition of love (agape). When we “crucify our flesh”, renew our minds and allow our born again spirit to dominate us, we will walk in love. – because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts (spirits) by the Holy Ghost.
The Holy Ghost is living and abiding in your spirit. The Holy Ghost communicates with your spirit and your spirit passes it on to your mind. Jesus said in John 14:23, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.”

In 1 Corinthians 3:16, Paul wrote, “Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? 2 Corinthians 6:16b says, “For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said:

‘I will dwell in them
And walk among them.
I will be their God,
And they shall be My people.’”

Therefore if God is dwelling in us then that’s where He’s going to speak to us. He’s going to speak to our hearts; to our spirits. Does the Holy Spirit condemn you if you do wrong as a Christian? NO! (see Romans 8:1). 1 John 3:20-12, says, “For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. It is our spirit that condemns us (editor: a better word here could be “convict”), because our spirit knows we’re doing wrong. Jesus said that the only sin that the Holy Spirit would convict the world (not born again believers) of, is the sin of rejecting Jesus (John 16:8-9), so we know that it’s our spirit that convicts us when we do wrong. It’s your own spirit that knows immediately when you’ve done wrong – and your spirit will tell you so – that’s the “love law” that was shed abroad in your heart and is working.

REFERENCED SCRIPTURES

Matthew 22:34-40
“But when the Pharisees had heard that he had put the Sadducees to silence, they were gathered together. Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him and saying, Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.” (KJV)

Galatians 5:14
“For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.” (KJV)
John 14:23
"Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him” (NKJV)

1st Corinthians 3:16
"Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit dwells in you.” (NKJV)

2nd Corinthians 6:16
“And what agreement as the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will dwell in them and walk with them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people.” (NKJV)

Romans 8:1
“There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.” (NKJV)

John 16:8-9
“And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.” (NKJV)

1st Corinthians 13:2-8a
“And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.”

GROUP QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

1. Explain how walking in God’s love (agape) is not only the greatest commandment in the “law”, but also wraps up into one word it’s fulfillment when we live that way.
2. Discuss occasions when the Holy Spirit spoke to your spirit and the action or inaction that you took.
3. Read Romans 8:1. Why do we sometimes have difficulty recognizing that we are no longer condemned?
4. Read 1 John 3:20-21 and John 3:17. In these passages, the Greek word for condemn has a different meaning than the word for condemn found in John 3:17. In 1 John 3:20-21, the word condemn means “find fault with” or “blame”. In John 3:17, the word condemn means to “damn, judge, or
sentence to”. When we do something wrong, why do our hearts (spirits) blame us?
5. Read Romans 8:33-34. Discuss the two things that God does for us.

MEMORY SCRIPTURE

“For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself” – Galatians 5:14
SESSION 4  THE INWARD WITNESS

PREPARE TO RECEIVE

In your group, begin with prayer and sing a praise and worship song or hymn. Pray that all hearts will be open to receive the incorruptible seed, the Word of God. Pray that everyone will be changed according to the will of God in their lives.

Prayer Scripture (read aloud before prayer)

Isaiah 56:7

Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people. (KJV, emphasis added)

Worship Scripture (read aloud before prayer)

Hebrews 13:15

“By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.” (KJV)

WATCH SESSION 4 - 05 minutes, 01 seconds

Summary – Recall that Romans 8:16 says, “The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,” The word “witness” here does not refer to witnessing with our bodies. It refers to witnessing to or with our spirits. Feeling is the voice of the body. Reason is the voice of the soul (or the mind). Conscience is the voice of the spirit. If we are led by feelings or any of the physical senses, we’ll get into trouble. Satan, who is the god of this fallen world (2nd Corinthians 4:4), will try to tempt us through man’s physical senses. It doesn’t matter how we feel, or maybe wonder if God heard our prayer. If the Word of God states it, then it’s true. We should base our faith on the Word, not on feelings. The Word and the spirit agree (1 John 5:7,8)

In John 16:13,14, Jesus said, “However, 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.”
Jesus also said to the disciples, in John 14:26, “But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”

The Holy Spirit bears witness with your spirit and he leads you. Now it’s not for us to tell God how to lead us. The primary way is through the inward witness. Another way God may lead us is through a vision, or an angel that appears to us. This phenomenon does not happen every day; for several in the Bible it happened rarely; in most cases only two or three times in a lifetime.

SCRIPTURES

2nd Corinthians 4:4
“But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God should shine on them.” (NKJV)

1 John 5:7-8
“For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.

John 16:13-14
“However, 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.” (NKJV)

John 14:26
“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.” (NKJV)

GROUP QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

1. Compare the differences between the voice of the body (feelings), the voice of the soul (intellect) and the voice of our spirit (conscience).
2. Read Romans 8:16. Why does the Holy Spirit bear witness with our spirits and not our minds or bodies?
3. What does it mean to “bear witness”?
“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; - John 16:13 (KJV)
SESSION 5  TRAINING YOUR SPIRIT

PREPARE TO RECEIVE

In your group, begin with prayer and sing a praise and worship song or hymn. Pray that all hearts will be open to receive the incorruptible seed, the Word of God. Pray that everyone will be changed according to the will of God in their lives.

Prayer Scripture (read aloud before prayer)

1 Timothy 2:1-2

1-3 The first thing I want you to do is pray. Pray every way you know how, for everyone you know. Pray especially for rulers and their governments to rule well so we can be quietly about our business of living simply, in humble contemplation. This is the way our Savior God wants us to live. (MSG)

Worship Scripture (read aloud before worship)

Psalm 100:4-5

4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.
5 For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations. (KJV)

WATCH SESSION 5 – 17 minutes, 00 seconds

Summary – Guidance for some people is to put out a “fleece before the Lord.” Nowhere in the New Testament does it say, “as many as are led by fleeces, these are the sons of God.” In the Old Testament Gideon laid out fleeces, but Gideon did not have the Holy Ghost. In the Old Testament, the king was anointed by the Holy Ghost to stand in the office of king; the priest was anointed to stand in his office and the prophet was anointed to stand in the office of prophet. There were a few other people who were anointed by the Holy Spirit that God called to do a special work. Although God did anoint Gideon eventually to perform what he was called to do, in the beginning God had to deal with Gideon through the physical senses. Today we have a better covenant (Hebrews 8:6). Many times Christians don’t want to take on the responsibility to find God’s will for their lives. They want God to stamp His approval on their plans. Getting God’s will sometimes takes “waiting”. Sometimes it takes waiting to get one’s physical senses under control.
Once we get our mind quiet, we can hear what God is saying to our spirit. When we are wronged, we are urged to remember that love returns good for evil. Love works no ill to its neighbor. To develop our spirits and to learn to listen to the voice of God, we need to listen to “love” (1 John 4:7,8). If we are not listening to love, we are not listening to the voice of God. In 1 Corinthians 14:14, Paul wrote, “For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.” Now when we pray in other tongues our minds grow quiet. This may take some time – not letting our minds wander, but thinking on Jesus. Once the mind is quiet, we become more conscience of our spirit, because we are praying out of our spirit. Then we come in direct contact, supernaturally, with God who is a Spirit (John 4:24). Speaking in tongues does not come out of our heads, so our mind doesn’t have to function. If we would train our spirits we would do three (3) things:

1. Feeding on God’s Word
2. Walk in love
3. Pray much in other tongues

...then we’d develop or strengthen our spirit man and know on the inside of ourselves exactly what to do, in the minor and even in the major things of life.

Many times we have developed our minds and our intellects at the expense of our hearts. When this happens, our knowledge or intellect has taken the “throne” and rules over our lives. This keeps our spirits suppressed to the point that they are not permitted to function. The inward witness is seeking to give guidance to our minds. Unfortunately many of us can say that there’s a lot of things we wouldn’t have done if we’d have only listened to our inward witness. Sometimes what we call spirituality is only the development of the soul.

SCRIPTURES

Hebrews 8:6
“But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises.” (NKJV)

1 John 4:7-8
“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.” (NKJV)
1 Corinthians 14:14
“For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.”
(NKJV)

John 4:24
“God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”
(NKJV)

GROUP QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

1. Why did Gideon put out the fleeces?
2. Why does it seem simple and quick for us to put out fleeces like Gideon?
3. Why do we, under the New Covenant, no longer need to put out fleeces?
4. How are some ways that we can get answers from God today?
5. What does it mean to you when Dr. Hagin says, “the voice of God is love (agape)?”
6. Describe your experience in praying in the Spirit, quieting your mind and getting revelation and direction from God.

MEMORY SCRIPTURE

“Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.” - 1 John 4:7
SESSION 6  PARTAKING OF THE DIVINE NATURE

In your group, begin with prayer and sing a praise and worship song or hymn. Pray that all hearts will be open to receive the incorruptible seed, the Word of God. Pray that everyone will be changed according to the will of God in their lives.

PREPARE TO RECEIVE

Prayer Scripture (read aloud before prayer)

Romans 8:26

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. (KJV)

Worship Scripture (read aloud before praise & worship)

Psalm 102:18-22

18 Let this be recorded for future generations, so that a people not yet born will praise the Lord.
19 Tell them the Lord looked down from his heavenly sanctuary.
He looked down to earth from heaven
20 to hear the groans of the prisoners,
to release those condemned to die.
21 And so the Lord’s fame will be celebrated in Zion,
   his praises in Jerusalem,
22 when multitudes gather together
   and kingdoms come to worship the Lord. (NLT)

WATCH SESSION 6 – 14 minutes, 02 seconds

Summary – When we’re praying along a specific line, contemplating on what to do...as we pray about it, if there’s a check in our spirit then we are being led to not do it.
Someone may ask, “well, what if it’s my spirit that’s leading or talking, and not the Holy Spirit?” Remember, Proverbs 20:27 says, “The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord”.
We should be able to tell if it’s the outward man or inward man that is speaking. We must learn the difference between the outward man and the inward man.
1 John 3:9 says, “Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.” What this is saying in the literal Greek is that he who is born of God does not practice sin. Physically we are born of our human parents, and we partake of their nature in the physical realm. But spiritually we’re born of God and are partakers of God’s nature.

2nd Peter 1:1 says, “Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”

Paul was on a ship to Rome to appeal his case before Caesar (Acts 27:9,10). Prior to the voyage he admonished the sailors urging them not to go. He said, “Sirs, I perceive that this voyage will be with hurt and much damage, not only of the lading and ship, but also of our lives.”

Notice that Paul didn’t say, “the Lord told him.” Paul used the first person, “I perceive”. This was Paul’s inward witness. In his spirit he had the witness to warn.

All Christians should have this same inward witness. This is not a manifestation of the gifts of the Spirit. Every Christian, however, should have a certain amount of spiritual discernment. Even in circumstances when we confess protection, we need to listen to our inward witness. The protection we confessed could be the warning we experienced in our inward witness.

Let’s learn to get acquainted with the Holy Ghost. Learn to talk to Him. He will lead you. He will guide you.

**SCRIPTURES**

1 John 3:9
“Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His see remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.” (NKJV)

2nd Peter 1:1
“Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.” (NKJV)

Acts 27:9-11
“Now when much time had been spent, and sailing was now dangerous because the Fast was already over, Paul advised them, saying, “Men, I perceive that this voyage will end with disaster and much loss, not only of the cargo and ship, but also our lives. Nevertheless the centurion was more persuaded by the helmsman and the owner of the ship than by the things spoken by Paul.” (NKJV)
GROUP QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

1. Why is it important to learn to differentiate the voice of the outward man compared to the inward man?
2. How can we be sure that the voice we’re hearing is the voice of the inward man (our born again spirit)?
3. Describe instances in your life when you heard clearly the authoritative voice of the Holy Ghost.
4. Describe instances in your life when you’ve had visions where God is communicating with you.
5. Why is it that we cannot tell God how He is to communicate with us in any given situation?

MEMORY SCRIPTURE

“Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.” – 2nd Peter 4:1

PLEASE LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

If this teaching has benefited you; if you have seen improved results in your faith walk would you please send us an email to lifegroups@agapefaith.com or write to us at:

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We would love to hear your #MyStory and publish it on our website and other social media. We love you and hope to hear from you soon!