

Led by the Spirit 2

Rom 8:13 — If you live by the dictates of the flesh (human nature) you will surely die. But if by the power of the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the flesh you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit are drawn along, drawn to Messiah. They obey the Gospel and continue to be led by the Spirit. You then continue to obey the Gospel. The Gospel is giving up the totality of your being. To be led by the Spirit is to follow the Spirit, not the proud — the proud cannot be led by the Spirit. To lead means to show the way, to follow a guide. It is like taking someone by the hand and leading them. The Spirit takes us by the spiritual hand and leads us. We are led by the Spirit in the Body, listening to our brothers, confessing. We share with our shepherds what is going on with us and what our burdens are. Therefore you can be led by the Spirit, we have to follow that Spirit. Those who aren't led by the Spirit in this way are not children of God.

When we were first led, we were drawn to Salvation and we obeyed the Gospel. We didn't have trouble giving up anything because of the joy from the wonderful pearl we found. We sold everything for that pearl, not holding onto anything. We didn't hang onto our house, we sold everything because we were led by the Spirit. This is the right response to the Gospel. We all made that right response.

This is Shalom — Those the Father and the Son make a home with. The Father and the Son make a home with those led by the Spirit. They feel at home with those led by the Spirit. We also feel at home, so if we're led by the Spirit we will share with the shepherds. If not we are led by the flesh, having your own mind. You justify yourself and they will die. Regardless of how many faults and failures we have we are led by the Spirit to be one — confessing our condition, sharing what's going on with us.

How much difference is there if a person is led by the Spirit or led by the flesh? Being led by the flesh is justifying yourself. No matter how many faults we have we are still led by the Spirit to share what is going on in our lives. If you didn't give up your house or farm (as the story of the rich young ruler) then you can't have eternal life. In the story of the rich young ruler our Master said, "Once you follow me you won't be able to continue." It must be absolutely everything to give up. Giving up everything is one of the main thrusts of the Gospel, it is trusting our Master with everything. We all give up everything, not hanging onto anything. Unless we gave up everything we are not disciples, we are still children of the evil one (Eph 2:1-2). These children are being led along by the evil one always whispering in their ear. Every liar will go to the lake of fire, not because you told one lie but because you have a lying nature and will go to the second death.

Now do we understand this principle: It is not just that we have to give up everything to get eternal life, it is that we trust our Master with everything and share with our shepherds our particular circumstances. If you share with your shepherds there will be understanding and wisdom there.

Rom 8:14-17 — It goes on to say the spirit which you received is not the spirit of slavery which puts you once more in bondage. But we received a spirit of adoption, as sons. This spirit makes us call out, "ABBA, ABBA! Help me, I need you — help me, I know I've done wrong." If you haven't received that spirit, that humble spirit, you haven't been saved.

The Spirit Himself speaks to us deep in our heart, assuring us we are the children of God. If we cry out Abba it means we have that need, that dependency. We have a childlike faith that's led along by the Spirit. Being led by the Spirit is helping others, being kind, being open with your shepherds, letting them know what you're struggling with. That is how all who are in the fellowship are.

1 Cor 12:2-3 — No one can say Yahshua is sovereign (Rom 10:9) except by the Holy Spirit. They have given up everything, not holding onto anything. They don't lead a closed life, but lead an open life before their brothers. But you are led by the Spirit.

This is my own experience. It is all I know. It goes along with what I read in the Bible. It is the objective word and my experience of my last twenty-two years and it should be yours.

If you're led by the Spirit you'll humble yourself with a contrite heart. **Isa 66:2** — That's who our Father looked to. Laying bear your needs and burdens, not keeping anything to yourself, not concealing

anything. Whoever is led by the Spirit will do this and is a child of God. If you're not led by the Spirit you're not a child of God. Have you received a spirit that cries "Abba Father!"? He is the God of the Hebrews.

Here's how it is in the Word of God — when a person is cut off we don't eat with him, as someone who has professed to be a believer or one cut off from the table. We don't talk to him except to reprove him, trying to bring him back to the faith — if we believe they are a brother or sister. We don't have communion with him.

No one can be a disciple who does not give up the totality of their being. That is the Gospel. The Gospel is being restored. Mt 17 — all things are being restored. Our Master can't come back until everything has been restored. The first thing restored had to be the Gospel or there wouldn't have been a Body. There is an eternal bond between the one who shared the Gospel with you, you love them. If that is not there, there is no spirit making that bond. We are family.

When the insincere are exposed and cut off from us then when we raise hands and pray we have more power in our prayers. I don't want to hold the Body back. I don't want to hold our prayers back with my own secret sins. I want to lead an open life before my Father in heaven.

For twenty years we've said:

"100 times out of 100 times He give grace to the humble. 100 times out of 100 times He will oppose the proud." Heb 4:16 is always ours twenty-four hours a day. We all can go to the throne of grace confidently. Even if you sin you can go to the throne of grace to be forgiven. He says, "Please come to the throne of grace — I'll help you come." If you haven't been going to the throne of grace you can't speak in the assembly.