

Heart to Heart

Bringing our hearts to Him,
Receiving His Heart for us!

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This is the adventure of a lifetime--and it can happen every day. Seeking the Lord for what He desires you to do next leads into such delightful discoveries. It is a true benefit and blessing of intimacy with Him...

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Joyce fought Lupus and and abuse and won.

Resources

Dear Steve,

What is FUN to you? There is a lot I can call fun, but one of the things at the top of the list is guidance. There is nothing like the feeling of getting a leading right, of following up on a prompting--and hitting paydirt, or of gliding along on a path designed for delight by a loving God.

I would not call everything in the Christian life fun: trials are definitely NOT fun; and worship of the kind that leads you into startling moments of closeness--well, those moments are somewhere way beyond fun. But **guidance is just right (when you get it right):** thrilling, delightful, deeply satisfying, quirky, and just plain enjoyable.

I hope that you are already embarked on a daily discovery of the joys there are in following specific guidance by the Lord. If not, it is never too late to enter the dance! **Here are some tips** I learned from others and a few that came in on the hot line. Enjoy!

Walking in the Spirit

Keeping stride with the Lord.

Did you try my hint from last time? *It is easier to learn guidance over the little things.* Knowing that He is known to be fond of mealtime fellowship, did you try asking the Lord what He has for you on the menu next time you go out to eat or what He would like to cook with you in the kitchen. This is the key to all guidance and Jesus showed it to all of us in the Garden: "Not my will, but Thine be done."

In utter frustration with not being able to find a way to give assistance, I once asked a beleaguered Christian if she had ever considered praying, "Jesus, what do you want me to do?" I was shocked to hear her say that ***such a prayer had never occurred to her.*** Her life was evidently all about doing whatever she thought was best--and then going to Jesus for the rescue when things went wrong. You can live like that if you want to, and all of us need rescuing from time to time, but there really is a better way. It is finding the way to let Jesus lead us--step by step, by His Word, by His Spirit and by His voice.

A priest friend was once asked, ***"What would Jesus do in my situation?"*** He replied: "Jesus wouldn't be in your situation!" Of course Jesus will (thank God) get into any situation with us, once we repent and return, but how much better if we let Him lead us away from avoidable trouble. And that is just the half of it, the avoidance half, because ***what guidance leads us into are moments and events that could never have happened if we had remained in charge.*** Guidance can put adventure and discovery back into all of the little moments of daily life. We become children alive to wonder, whenever we live by wondering what He wants us to do next!



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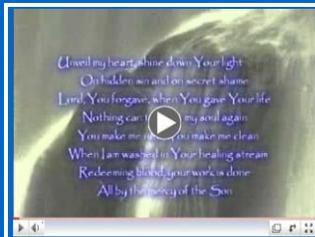
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OK, enough of the sales pitch. You are going for this right? That's the Spirit! Continuing then with "Christ Conscious Guidance":

3) Inward impressions.

Movements of the Holy Spirit upon us, especially when we are "at rest" in the Lord, help to keep us in step with the Spirit (Hebrews 5:14). Only the Lord can teach you this way of "continual guidance" (Isaiah 58:11). Because leadings are often so faint, it really is a process of trial and error. But take heart, He just loves it that we are seeking to be led! So, walk humbly--humility receives guidance (James 4-6)). Don't go proclaiming you've heard from the Lord. Let events unfold by themselves. His wisdom will become evident (Matthew 11:19).

He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8

He speaks ever quieter, so learn to be still--calming ourselves really is something that we can do (Psalm 131:1-3). Picture a pond surrounded by trees with the wind blowing and rain pelting the surface. A pebble tossed into it wouldn't be heard or noticed. But see the pond on a calm day: the splash can be heard, every ripple followed to the shore. Now you be that calm pond. Listening within as you go through the day. As with our speech, both the Lord and the enemy have a message (words) and an impression (tone of voice). Learn to recognize the ripple effect of their voice upon your soul. The Lord's ripple effect is peace filled, the enemy's is more turbulent.

...and after the fire a still small voice. 1 Kings 19:12

It is better to wait for the light to come, than to proceed in the dark. But the moment you are sure, yield a complete obedience.

RULE OF THUMB: *When in doubt, wait it out; if you feel led, go ahead.*

Negative impressions (checking, grieving, restraining) caution us to stop, look and listen.

Positive impressions (prompting, leading, impelling, calling) draw us forth.

WARNING: inward impressions may come from wrong spirits or from un-renewed areas of our souls (unhealed wounds, wrong desires, unmet needs, etc.). Proceed with caution!

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it? Jeremiah 17:9

It is not enough... for the leading to be very remarkable or the coincidences to be very striking, to stamp it as being surely from God. Hannah Whithall Smith, the Christian's Secret of a Happy Life.

4) Consensus of wise counsel.

This is no substitute for one's own judgment! God will use others to confirm, but rarely to give direction. Agreement of counselors may be a sign of God's leading. It needs to be heeded, but not followed slavishly (Proverbs 15:22). **Who are the wise ones** whose walk with the Lord you admire, and whom God has placed in your life? Make sure you seek them out--not people who will molly-coddle you and tell you what you want to hear (Proverbs 13:14)! Even so, keep in mind that His ultimate purpose is for us to be able to listen for ourselves. It is good to go to others for counsel, but **we are not to lean on them**--we are to learn to lean on the Lord.

No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them. Jeremiah

31:34

5) Providential circumstances.

Reading providential signs is for confirmation only. Even open and closed doors are not a sign in themselves: closed doors need to be respected, but they are not always of the Lord; neither are open doors. I learned this the hard way. As a rule don't force your way past a closed door or turn from one in despair. Learn to wait upon the Lord to open what needs to be opened (Revelation 3:7-8). But don't race through every open door you see--it could be a snare.

Slow down signs: closed doors, hindrances, disturbances "in the flow" of peace and order.

Proceed with caution signs: open doors, free flow of events, coincidences; river of peace (if you get into the river, stay in it--that's the flow of anointing and it is where you want to be).

We are meant to let the Shepherd (not signs) go before us, leading us in the way. He is the Way (John 14:6). Sticking close to Him is the secret of guidance. We also are meant to mature to the point where we hear His voice. Lambs may not hear His voice--sheep do.

...and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. John 10:3-4

The river of life.

There is a vision in Ezekiel of water flowing from the temple that begins as a shallow stream and becomes a river no one can cross (Ezekiel 47:1-5). This gives us a picture of the life of faith flowing from the place of consecration. There is peace as we trust and obey, but it is easy to step out of the flow of it. With practice we learn to live in the peace Jesus supplies--a peace for our hearts (as we trust Him) and a peace for our feet (as we follow Him). The Holy Spirit is a river of life to all who learn to live in Him and walk by Him.

For thus says the LORD: "Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river..." Isaiah 66:12

With practice, determined effort, childlike faith and lots of grace this flow of peace and divine purposes which once was so hard to find (only ankle deep) will become a mighty river that lifts and carries you into Great Adventures in the Lord.

So what are you waiting for?

Go ahead-jump in with both feet!

Wildly, wonderful, weekends

We have started doing a condensed version of our seminar on weekends for people who can't take a week off from work, but would like to be refreshed and ministered to by what we offer. ***The next weekend begins this coming Friday night June 24th at 7PM.*** It continues on Saturday and Sunday from 9-5 both days and only costs \$50.00 which includes the 170 page workbook. If you are interested or know someone who could benefit please give us a call: 912-355-3532 or send us an email:

info@healingstreamsusa.org

From We to Thee

*Will somebody get me
out of here?*



Eunice and I were listening to a teaching series by Andy Womack on anger management while we were on a road trip this past week to see relatives in Carolina (both North and South). One key point to the teaching was that we are told to be angry, but sin not, and that the only proper way to do this is **to keep your anger focused on the enemy and his kingdom and not on God, self or others.**

I had to confess to God (and now to you) that I have spent my Christian lifetime learning how to release God, self, and others from being targets for my anger, but I have yet to really learned how to focus anger on the enemy. **Can you relate?** And yet Jesus kept a sinless form and focus of anger within easy reach as the gospels make clear.

We should be mad at sin, sickness, and all of the ills that ruin life-- even as we clear our hearts of all ungodly anger at people. Not easy to do, but necessary. So I am taking up the challenge of getting hopping mad at the true source of evil. Anger at the enemy is a great ally in raising up a fighting spirit.

The other key point had to do with selfishness being the source of all ungodly anger.

Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom. Proverbs 13:10 KJV

Check out that little word "only." Only by pride comes contention which can also be translated as strife, the fruit of anger towards others. Andy was reminding us that **pride is not simply arrogance alone.** In the Biblical view it is selfishness, self-centeredness, self-willfulness, and self-love in all its fallen forms. **Selfishness is the opposite of living for Christ,** because it is putting self at the center of all that matters, not Jesus. Now there is a lot we could say there, but let's leave it for another time.

For now, my take away on this is that **guidance shows us a way out.** We have all fallen into the dungeon of self and placed self at the center of all our evaluations, desires and dreams. Even our love for our loved ones is riddled and at times ruined by self seeking.

If you have ever seen how thoroughly the wrong kind of self love rules over all of our lesser moments, you could sympathize with our daughter's voice once heard drifting down the corridor at the dental office: "I don't think I like this place. Will someone get me out of here?" But **self can't deliver us from self.** We need Jesus to meet us and lead us out, step by step, as He shows us the true path for our feet and for our heart. And that also is why I love guidance so much!

Truths with Traction!

A lifetime of learning has gone into the workbook that forms the basis of what we teach. Steve likes to say that these truths have been field tested! They are "**truths with traction**," guaranteed to get your emotional life unstuck from those pesky stronghold areas that the enemy loves to bring our walk to a halt with. All it takes is a small investment your time and treasure to have so many secrets of the heart opened to your understanding. In our seminars it is a constant thrill to see "**the lights go on**" for the students. Now you can have the seminar experience in the comfort of your own home! How can you resist?

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Healings Streams is a Christian ministry dedicated to helping people find peace and freedom from troubling issues of the emotional life. Such deep roots often become the source for a host of stress related diseases, psychological disorders and addictions. Even so, our goal for people is not just escape from emotional stress and its consequences, but full entry into true Kingdom living--plunging into the river of Peace that flows all around us from the throne of Grace. ***Let's all jump in!***

Sincerely,

Steve and Eunice Evans

Healing Streams Ministry

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