

Guided by God

How God Guides Us, Psalms 48:14

God Promises to Guide to Us

Psalm 48:14 (KJV) For this God is our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide even unto death.

- God promises to be our guide
- God wants to guide us throughout our lives
- God's guidance is not "random", it's designed to fulfill *His purpose* for our lives
- God is ready to guide us through all the *chapters* of our lives
- God wants to be both our *constant companion* and our *navigator* to guide us to His purpose for our lives
- We must realize that God's guidance is rooted in *relationship* with Him ***Psalm 48:9 (NLT2) O God, we meditate on your unfailing love as we worship in your Temple.***
- When we meditate on God's unfailing love, it means we have a constant focus on God and a relationship that is *willing* to do whatever is necessary to please Him
- How does God guide us?

God Guides through His Word

Psalm 119:105 (KJV) ¹⁰⁵ Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

- As Christians, we are guided by the word of God
- The word of God is a light that both *guides* our feet and *illuminates* our path
- The word of God is a lamp that guides us keep us from stumbling
- We live in a "dark world" with many obstacles, traps, false doctrines, and enemies lurking along the way, that's why we need the word of God to guide us
- The word of God also *illuminates* our way
 - The light of God's word helps us:
 - See the way ahead
 - Stay on the right path and not wander away from God
 - Recognize problems and dangers in advance
 - Gain confidence in God's word, so we are not tentative or doubtful in our actions and decisions
- The word of God will guide you in every issue and situation of life
- The *Word of God* will help you see "false words" ***Isaiah 8:20 (KJV) ²⁰ "... if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."***

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- God guides by His word when we seek to know His word ***Psalm 119:11 (KJV) Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.***
- The Word of God guides us in our daily walk with God
- Daily Bible study will guide us in our daily activities

God Guides through His Spirit

John 14:26 (KJV) 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 is the believer's *helper*
- Jesus promised the disciples that the Holy Spirit would help them *remember* what He had been teaching them
- The Holy Spirit gives us help or guidance *based on* the word of God
- The Holy Spirit *only* guides us in ways that are in *alignment* with the Word of God
- The Holy Spirit can help us the same way Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would help the disciples
- The Holy Spirit will guide us *to do some things* and guide us *not to do some things* ***Acts 16:7 (KJV) After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not.***
- How can we tell if this is the Holy Spirit leading us?
- We have a responsibility to *try* every spirit ***1 John 4:1 (KJV) ¹ Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.***
- Anything that's real doesn't mind being tested, validated, challenged and confirmed
- Just because someone claim to speak by the Spirit of God doesn't make it so, you must test them by the Spirit

God Guides through the Counsel of Godly People

Proverbs 11:14 (KJV) ¹⁴ Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.

- Getting the *right advice* from the *right people* can guide us to the right decision
- God has placed godly people in our lives to help guide us

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- They are people who objective, unbiased, and will tell you the truth
- We need godly counsel because when we are left to our devices, we can easily deviate from God's plan for our lives
- One of the most dangerous things we can do is make decisions without talking to someone who can impart wisdom to us ***Proverbs 12:15 (KJV) ¹⁵ The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.***
- Seeking the advice of godly people will work in our favor ***Proverbs 15:22 (KJV) ²² Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established.***
 - Godly counsel helps free us from being locked into one way of thinking
 - Godly counsel may have wisdom and experience we don't have
 - Godly counsel helps us see other options we may have overlooked or dangers down the road
 - Godly counsel will help avoid mistakes because they have already *made and paid* for their mistakes
- Godly counsel will guide you to success ***Proverbs 20:18 (KJV) Every purpose is established by counsel: and with good advice make war.***
 - Our plans succeed when we have godly counsel involved
 - We don't want to go to "war", (i.e. making major plans/decisions) without the support, help and guidance of godly people
 - You don't want to make any *life altering decisions* (i.e. relationship, financial, career, etc.) without some godly counsel
- God has put godly people in your life, tap into their knowledge, wisdom and life experiences

God Guides through Common Sense

1 Peter 4:7 (KJV) But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.

- God guides through *common sense*
- Unfortunately, common sense is not always "common"
- What is common sense?
- Common sense is *reasoning ability*
- God is calling us to be sober-minded, being of a sound mind

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- It's being in control of one's self, never giving in to extremes or excesses of life
- It is the ability to remain calm, you're not overly shaken by the troubles, challenges, and issues of life
- We don't rely on our common sense exclusively; we still need God's guidance ***Proverbs 3:5-6 (KJV) 5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. 6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.***

God Guides through Circumstances

Acts 16:31-34 (NLT2) 31 They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household." 32 And they shared the word of the Lord with him and with all who lived in his household. 33 Even at that hour of the night, the jailer cared for them and washed their wounds. Then he and everyone in his household were immediately baptized. 34 He brought them into his house and set a meal before them, and he and his entire household rejoiced because they all believed in God.

- God can guide by orchestrating, moving, shaping the events and situations of our lives
- Often, we don't realize it at the time, but certain events turned out the way they did because God was guiding the circumstances
- In Acts 16:34 Paul and Silas were God leading a Philippian jailer and his entire family to Jesus.
- It was not through a vision, or being led of the Spirit, it was God *guiding* the circumstances
- God guides us through our circumstances
- God has the power to take every event in our lives, even the bad ones and still guide us to His original purpose and destiny for our lives ***Romans 8:28 (KJV) 28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.***
- As we are guided by God to be who he wants us to be, we must always *open to* and *trust* His guidance