

**Frequency: Tune In to Hear God – The Inward Witness**

Ross Parsley – March 5, 2017

**John 8:47 (NIV)** *Whoever belongs to God hears what God says.*

We hear God's voice when the Holy Spirit **bears witness** with our spirit.

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

- **"bears witness"** original language is... "symmartyreō" (soom-mar-too-reh'-o)
- Which means "to **corroborate**" or "to give **evidence**"

**The Holy Spirit gives us an inward witness.**

- The Inward Witness is **a response**.
- The Inward Witness is **not a feeling**.
- The Inward Witness is a confident **knowing** on the inside from the Holy Spirit.

**Acts 16:6-10 (ESV)** *And they went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. 7 And when they had come up to Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them. 8 So, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. 9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." 10 And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.*

**Matthew 28:19-20 (NKJV)** *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations...*

**Acts 13:2-3 (NKJV)** *the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." 3 Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away.*

The Apostle Paul and his team were following these instructions that...

**God had already given them.**

"It's really hard to drive **a parked car!**" – Ken Parsley

- God's voice gets clearer when we're **moving** with Him in obedience.
- Do what you know to do and God's voice will get more **specific!**

**Exodus 20:18-21 (NIV)** *When the people saw the thunder and lightning and heard the trumpet and saw the mountain in smoke, they trembled with fear. They stayed at a distance 19 and said to Moses, "Speak to us yourself and we will listen. But do not have God speak to us or we will die." 20 Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. God has come to test you, so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning." 21 The people remained at a distance, while Moses approached the thick darkness where God was.*

- Learn to **explore without commitment**.
- Learn to **move and listen** at the same time.

**Why does the Holy Spirit often give us direction in pieces?**

- Our lives may have been **torn apart**.
- This world is broken **into pieces**.
- God hides his plans from **the wicked**.

**1 Corinthians 2:6-10 (NKJV)** <sup>6</sup> *However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. 7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory, 8 which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." 10 But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.*

- God wants us to depend on, rely on, and trust in Him **first!**

**Proverbs 3:5-6 (MSG)** *Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track. Don't assume that you know it all.*

- We learn to follow His inward witness **by faith**.