

## **Animated – Week: “Being Led”**

### **LifeGroup Leader Discussion Guide**

**20260607**

#### **Sermon Summary**

Life is full of decisions. Too often, we navigate these moments relying entirely on our own resources. But Jesus didn't leave us to figure out life on our own. Jesus has given us His Holy Spirit as a guide. This week, we'll explore what it looks like to step out of the noise and activate the guiding power of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

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#### **Opening Prayer**

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for giving us Your Holy Spirit to guide, comfort, and direct us. As we gather together, quiet our hearts and remove distractions so we can hear your voice clearly. Help us grow in our understanding of how You lead us and give us courage to obey when You speak. May our discussion be honest, encouraging, and centered on your truth. Teach us to trust You more deeply and to follow your leading in every area of our lives.

In Jesus' name,  
Amen.

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#### **Icebreaker**

**Share about a time when you had to make an important decision without having all the information you wanted. How did you move forward?**

#### **Leader Insight**

This question helps the group connect with the week's theme before discussing spiritual guidance. Listen for common feelings such as uncertainty, fear, confidence, or reliance on advice from others. Highlight that everyone experiences moments where they need guidance beyond their own understanding.

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## Discussion Questions

### 1. What were some key ideas for you from this week's sermon?

Leader Insight: Encourage your group members to reflect on key thoughts from the teaching. Begin by reading the sermon summary.

### 2. How have you experienced the Holy Spirit's guidance in your life? (ex. giving you peace, a feeling of caution, a red light, timely words)

Leader Insight: Begin by sharing a story from your own experience. Remind the group that their stories don't have to be dramatic. The Holy Spirit's guidance can be a "still small voice" or for some "writing in the sky".

### 3. Read Proverbs 3:5-6

**Can you share a time when ignoring a subtle spiritual check or nudge led you to take a longer detour or learn a lesson the hard way?**

#### Leader Insight

This question encourages vulnerability and reflection. The goal is not guilt but awareness. Many believers recognize God's wisdom more clearly in hindsight. Emphasize that God often uses our mistakes as opportunities for growth and deeper dependence on Him.

#### Follow-Up

- What did you learn from that experience?
- How did it affect your willingness to trust God afterward?

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### 4. Read John 10:27 and 1 Corinthians 2:14

**For someone who wants to intentionally practice following Jesus, what spiritual habits or rhythms help us distinguish the Holy Spirit's genuine nudges from our own random thoughts, fears, or emotional impulses?**

#### Leader Insight

Participants may mention Scripture, prayer, worship, wise counsel, fasting, journaling, or silence. Encourage the group to recognize that hearing God's voice is often cultivated through consistent relationship rather than occasional dramatic experiences.

## **Key Principle**

God's leading will never contradict His Word and typically becomes clearer as we spend regular time with Him.

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## **5. Read John 15:18-20**

**Why is resisting relational fear or pushback an essential part of growing as a disciple, rather than a definitive sign that we've misheard God's direction?**

### **Leader Insight**

Many people assume opposition means they made the wrong decision. Scripture often shows the opposite. Jesus promised that following Him would sometimes create tension. Help the group distinguish between godly conviction and people-pleasing.

### **Follow-Up**

- Have you ever obeyed God despite criticism or misunderstanding?
  - What strengthened you during that season?
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**6. How does hearing your life as a dynamic guide assignment from Jesus change your willingness to step out of your comfort zone and take small, daily risks for the Kingdom?**

### **Leader Insight**

The Christian life is not merely avoiding sin; it is actively joining Jesus in His mission. This question shifts the focus from receiving guidance to responding to guidance.

### **Discussion Direction**

Encourage members to think about practical risks:

- Initiating a spiritual conversation
  - Praying for someone
  - Serving a neighbor
  - Inviting someone to church
  - Reconciling a strained relationship
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## **7. Read Luke 12:11-12 and Acts 8:29-40**

**Can you relate to Stephen's experience here? What happened when the Holy Spirit prompted you toward someone, a conversation, or an act of obedience?**

### **Leader Insight**

Not everyone will have a dramatic story. Small acts of obedience are equally valuable. Celebrate both big and small examples of Spirit-led living.

### **Follow-Up**

- What was the outcome?
  - How did the experience affect your faith?
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**8. How do you think fear of relying on the Spirit's immediate leading versus your own natural intellect and control contributes to our hesitation to act?**

### **Leader Insight**

Many believers trust God for salvation but struggle to trust Him in daily decisions. Fear often shows up as over-analysis, perfectionism, or waiting for certainty.

### **Key Principle**

Faith does not eliminate wisdom; it means submitting our wisdom to God's leadership.

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## **9. Read Acts 20:20-24**

**Have you ever felt "compelled" like Paul in this passage? How do we balance an undeniable internal spiritual prompting to do something with our very natural human desire for safety, predictability, and a guaranteed positive outcome?**

### **Leader Insight**

This is a great opportunity to discuss biblical discernment. Being led by the Spirit does not guarantee comfort, success, or ease. It guarantees God's presence.

### **Discussion Direction**

Ask:

- What usually weighs more heavily for you—obedience or security?
  - What practical steps help you move forward when outcomes are uncertain?
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**10. Learning to be led by the Spirit is a practical skill that develops over time as we practice taking small risks and observing the results.**

**What are some examples of obeying a spiritual nudge—such as sending an encouraging text, pausing to pray for a coworker, or speaking up for someone—that you've intentionally taken this week to practice following your spiritual discernment muscle?**

#### **Leader Insight**

This question makes the conversation practical and actionable. Encourage members to share recent examples rather than only past experiences.

#### **Key Principle**

Spiritual sensitivity grows through practice and obedience.

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**11. In a modern world saturated with phone notifications, background noise, streaming media, and constant mental chatter, it is incredibly easy to drown out God's voice.**

**What is one practical rhythm you can implement this week to "turn down the volume" of the world so your soul is quiet enough to catch God's whisper?**

#### **Leader Insight**

Help the group move from inspiration to application. Encourage specific commitments rather than general intentions.

#### **Examples**

- Ten minutes of silence each morning
  - Putting the phone away during devotional time
  - Taking a prayer walk
  - Limiting social media consumption
  - Listening to worship music instead of podcasts during a commute
  - Creating a weekly Sabbath rhythm
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## Leader Wrap-Up

As the discussion concludes, remind the group:

- The Holy Spirit is not merely a force but a Person who desires relationship with us.
  - Learning to recognize His voice is a process that develops over time.
  - God's leading is most often confirmed through Scripture, prayer, wise counsel, and peace-filled obedience.
  - We don't need perfect certainty before taking faithful next steps.
  - Small acts of obedience often prepare us for larger assignments in the future.
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## Weekly Challenge

This week, ask God each morning:

"Holy Spirit, what are You inviting me to do today?"

Then pay attention to any promptings that align with Scripture and take one practical step of obedience. Journal what happened and be prepared to share next week.

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## Closing Prayer

Holy Spirit,

Thank you for being our guide and helper. Teach us to recognize your voice above the noise of our world and above our own fears. Give us hearts that are quick to obey and willing to trust You even when the path is unclear. Help us become people who walk closely with You every day. Use us to encourage others, serve boldly, and point people to Jesus.

In Jesus' name,  
Amen.