

“Following God’s Lead”

“God is always trying to lead us into a life of dependence on Him rather than self-reliance.”

A.W. Tozer

Q. Are we willing to be led?

Acts 2:14-16 NLT

¹⁴ Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles and shouted to the crowd, “Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews and residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this. ¹⁵ These people are not drunk, as some of you are assuming. Nine o’clock in the morning is much too early for that. ¹⁶ No, what you see was predicted long ago by the prophet Joel...

STEPPED forward
SPOKE up
STIRRED the people

My voice matters...

Acts 2:17-18, 21 NLT

¹⁷ ‘In the last days,’ God says, ‘I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. **Your sons and daughters will prophesy.** Your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams. ¹⁸ In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on my servants—**men and women alike**— and **they will prophesy.**

²¹ ...everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.’

A time when hearing God was rare...

1 Samuel 3:1 NLT

¹ ...the boy Samuel served the LORD by assisting Eli. Now in those days **messages from the Lord were very rare**, and visions were quite uncommon.

God suddenly speaks...

1 Samuel 3:2-5 NLT

² One night Eli, who was almost blind by now, had gone to bed.

³ The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was sleeping in the Tabernacle **near the Ark of God**. ⁴ Suddenly the **Lord called out, “Samuel!”** “Yes?” Samuel replied. “What is it?”

⁵ He got up and ran to Eli. “Here I am. Did you call me?”

“I didn’t call you,” Eli replied. “Go back to bed.” So he did.

Assignments in scripture...

Noah — Build an ark to preserve life before the flood. Gen. 6–9

Abraham — Leave homeland; become father of a great nation. Gen. 12

Moses — Lead Israel out of Egypt / deliver God's law. Exodus 3

Joshua — Lead the Israelites into the Promised Land. Joshua 1

Esther — Save the Hebrew people from destruction. Esther 4:14

Nehemiah — Rebuild Jerusalem's walls after exile. Nehemiah

Jonah — Warn Nineveh to repent. Jonah

Mary — Bear and raise Jesus. Luke 1

John the Baptist — Prepare the way for Jesus. Matthew 3

Paul — Take gospel to the Gentiles / establish churches. Acts 9 ...

Disobedience blocks my understanding

Psalm 32: 1,3,5,8 NLT

¹ Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven...

³ When I refused to confess my sin, my body wasted away,
and I groaned all day long... ⁵ Finally, I confessed all my sins
to you and stopped trying to hide my guilt.

⁸ The LORD says, “I will guide you along the best pathway
for your life. I will advise you and watch over you...”

Obedience transforms...

Acts 2:36-38 NLT

³⁶ “So let everyone in Israel know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, to be **both Lord and Messiah!**”

³⁷ **Peter’s words pierced their hearts**, and they said to him and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?”

³⁸ Peter replied, “Each of you must **repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ** for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

STEPPED forward

SPOKE up

STIRRED the ‘hearts of’ people

Discussion Questions

- 1. A.W. Tozer said that God leads us into dependence on Him rather than self-reliance. What are some areas of your life where you find it hardest to depend on God instead of yourself?**
- 2. Peter stepped forward, spoke up, and stirred people after being filled with the Holy Spirit. Can you think of a time when God prompted you to step out in faith? What happened, and what did you learn?**
- 3. The presentation highlights that "my voice matters" and that God uses ordinary people of all ages and backgrounds. What gifts, experiences, or opportunities has God given you that could be used to encourage or influence others?**
- 3. Samuel learned to recognise God's voice in a time when hearing from God was rare (1 Samuel 3). How do you personally discern God's leading today, and what helps you become more attentive to His voice?**
- 4. Psalm 32 teaches that disobedience can block our understanding, while obedience brings God's guidance and transformation. Is there an area where God may be asking you to take a step of obedience? What is holding you back, and how can the group support you?**
- 5. What is one practical step you can take this week to better follow God's lead in your daily life?**

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