

# Avoiding Fads—Tuning in the Spirit

## ***My Heart Understands:***

At this stage of my walk with Christ, I'm completely convinced that the highest possible value in personal evangelism is staying attuned to and cooperative with the Holy Spirit.

Listening to God speak to us through his Holy Spirit is not only normal it is essential. Once I turned my life over to Jesus Christ, it was no longer business as usual.

Trying to explain or define the promptings of the Holy Spirit is not easy.

Promptings are *mystical*

They are *phenomenal*

They are *intangible*

They are *real*

From Galatians 5:25 Paul urges Christ-followers to "keep in step with the Spirit".

## ***The Scriptures say:***

"(v.13) Let me tell you why you are here. You're here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavors of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? You've lost your usefulness and will end up in the garbage.

(v.14) Here's another way to put it: You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. (v.15) Now that I've put you there on a hill-top, on a light stand—*shine!* Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven."

Matthew 5:13-16

***The action the scriptures describes***

Matt. 5:13 → Seasoning with no flavor has no value.

***If*** Christ followers make *no* effort to affect the world around them,  
they are of *little* value to God.

A Christ follower's goal is to affect others ***positively***

Matt. 5:14-16 → Can you hide a city that is sitting on top of a mountain?

It's light at night can be seen for miles.

***If*** we live for Christ, we will glow like lights, showing  
others what Christ is like.

***Too*** often we hide our light by:

1-Being ***quiet*** when we should speak.

2-Denying the light.

3-Not explaining our light to others

4-Ignoring the needs of others.

Rather,

We are called to have a powerful, positive influence as we follow the  
promptings of the Holy Spirit.

We are to . . . .

We are to ***develop friendships***

by engaging in the lives of people  
around us.

We are to ***discover stories***

before sharing our own story and God's redemptive story

We are to ***discern next steps***

by following the Holy Spirit's promptings

My next step will be to \_\_\_\_\_.

And then I will

\_\_\_\_\_!

Walk Across the Room #3;

5-2-09: RJB