



A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Theme of the month:	Where Do We Go from Here?
Text for the Week:	Acts 21
Message for the Week:	"In Search of Guidance"
Theme for the Week:	Growing Confident in the Spirit's Guidance

Week 28

Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

When you daydream, what do you think about?

Preparation:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

Read:

Read [Acts 21](#) out loud.

What words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them with those who are with you.

Respond / Reflect:

When you face choices and decisions, how do you exercise divine awareness, spirit-focused listening, good judgement, spiritual wisdom, heartfelt initiative, and godly obedience?

Where do you hear God best?

When was the last time that you reflected on the circumstances, thoughts, and desires of your life?

Have you come to the point in your spiritual life where you have the confidence to follow the Spirit's guidance in obedience wherever it takes you?

If your prayer life is a barometer of your relationship with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, how is your relationship with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

What do you think God thinks if we don't hear the Spirit's guidance or get our discernment exactly right?

"Try It!"

Ask someone, whose faith journey you admire, how they know what God wants them to do. Do they have a story or example of how they clearly knew what God was saying to them? What did you learn about their discernment process? How does their discernment process compare with yours?

Prayer:

Spend time in prayer regarding the things God revealed and that you discerned in your time with God today.

Also, spend time in prayer with/for the other people who are with you.

God, You have a plan for each one of us, You hold out to us a future full of hope. Give us the wisdom of your Spirit so that we can see the shape of your plan in the gifts you have given us, and in the circumstances of our daily lives. Give us the freedom of your Spirit, to seek you with all our hearts, and to choose your will above all else. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Missional Practice for the Month: Praying with Eyes Open

Normally when we pray, we close our eyes, shut off from the world and focus on what we are saying to God. Praying with eyes open is a missional practice because as we see what is going on around us, the Spirit will prompt us to pray for things that we would probably never have prayed for. We invite you during the month of May, on several different occasions, to go to a public place such as a park, café, school hallway, or shopping center and ask God to help you see what God sees. As God prompts you, pray about what you see. As we begin to pray with our eyes open when we drive to work, shop for groceries, walk the dog, watch our kids ball game, sit in your front yard, etc., God will connect us with the heartbeat of our neighborhood and community, revealing to us his work that we might join with him.