

Direction
Part 4 - Who is it?
07/19/2020

- You can identify the person by the voice
- Is it God?
- This series can be life changing

1 John 4:1-6 (ESV) Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

How To Test:

1st) Does it line up with **SCRIPTURE**.

1 John 4:1 (ESV) Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.

- God will never tell you to violate a principle that he's already given in his Word

Luke 21:33 (ESV) "Heaven and earth will pass away but my words will not pass away."

Gal. 1:8 (NLT) Let God's curse fall on anyone, including us or even an angel from heaven, who preaches a different kind of Good News than the one we preached to you.

- Read it as if it's written to you.

2nd) Does it line up with **JESUS**.

1 John 4:2-3 (ESV) By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, 3 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.

The gospel is the glad and merry news that God is good and if you are in Christ, he loves you, and he will happily give up everything he has so he can have you. Contrary to popular belief, God is not mad at you. He is not even in a bad mood. The good news declares that God is happy, he is for you, and he wants to share his life with you forever.

- God's purpose in your life is to make you like Jesus.
- Life is a test and a trust and a temporary assignment
- That's going to involve some problems and going through some things that Jesus went through.
- Life is tough
- God is more interested in your character than in your comfort

Ph. 2:5 (NCV) "In your lives you must think and act like Jesus Christ."

2 Cor. 10:5 (GW) "We take every thought captive so it's obedient to Christ."

Galatians 5:22-23 (ESV) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control;

James 3:14-17 (NIV) "If you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition...such 'wisdom' is of the devil. The wisdom that comes from God is pure, peace loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy, impartial and sincere."

2 ways to know it's not God:

A) If it's motivated by **BITTERNESS** or **ENVY**.

B) If it's motivated by **SELFISH** ambition.

- God doesn't give you self-serving ideas.

7 Ways to know it is God:

A) **PURE**.

B) **PEACE** Loving.

- When God gives you an idea it promotes harmony not conflict.

C) **CONSIDERATE**.

- God is concerned about the effects on other people.

D) **SUBMISSIVE**.

- Submissive is willing to have your idea checked by somebody else

E) Full of **MERCY**.

F) **IMPARTIAL** and **SINCERE**.

3rd) Does it line up with **ME**.

1 John 4:4 (ESV) Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

- God made you specifically to be you!
- He doesn't want you to be somebody you're not.

Ephesians 2:10 (NIV) "We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works... which God prepared in advance for us to do."

- What you're good at is a good indication of what you should do with your life.

Romans 12:6 (LB) "God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well..."

- But more than what do I love to do, what am I really good at

4th) Does it line up with my **BUSINESS**.

1 John 4:5-6 (ESV) They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

- The world's business is not my business
- There are certain things that aren't my business.
- If it's not your responsibility why should God talk to you about it?

John 21:22 (NIV) "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me."

- Does God ever speak to us about someone else?

Be patient and **PRAY**.

Understand that God will use you to **CONFIRM** what he's already said to them.

God usually uses you without your **KNOWLEDGE**.

- *Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.*