

LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

By Natasha Lee Furness

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Living life led by the Holy Spirit is unorthodox. It is contrary to what the world says. When others are staying, it means going. When others are going, it means staying. When others are spending, it means saving, when others are saving, it means spending. It is listening to the small promptings of the Holy Spirit in our everyday decisions. It is a selfless approach to life - nothing is ever out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. It is all for the glory of God. A life submitted and fully devoted to Him. Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ saith the Lord of hosts.(Zechariah 4:6)

A life that has no restraints. A life that is full of victory and power. It is inward reflection and an external outworking. It’s saying no to victim mentality. It’s saying no to thinking less of yourself. Why? Because God created you. You are not even yours to think less of. You can love yourself because God loves you. God created you.

A dove is a symbol of the Holy Spirit. A dove has nine feathers on each wing. One can say it represents the nine gifts (1 Corinthians 12:7-10) and nine fruits (Galatians 5:22-23) of the Holy Spirit. Both are needed for the dove to fly, to keep upright. We cannot live life not growing in the fruits, but expect our gifts to carry us. And vice versa, we need to use our gifts while allowing the fruits to grow in our lives. This ultimately leads to a life where we are flourishing. Like a dove, we would be “flying” which is what they were created to do.

Living a life led by the Spirit is not easy. Noah built a boat when there was no rain. And definitely no weather reporter or weather app. It’s not only about stepping out of the boat to walk on water, it’s about building the boat before the water even arrives. How are you building your life? According to the Spirit ? Or according to flesh?

Carnal things will fade away. Just like a boat. But if we can trust the Spirit to lead us out of the boat and to walk on water even when it seems impossible, we need to be able to listen so that we don’t remain in what is comfortable. That boat could crack and break at any point, but if we listen to the Spirit, we can escape the safety of what is physical. What is carnal. And step out and continue to obey the Spirit. Wherever He leads us - that is where safety is. Wherever and whatever God has called you to, it is the safest place you can be.



A LIFE LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

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Living by the Spirit is being willing to leave everything you have built up and leave it behind. Your whole life's worth of sowing and pouring out. Whatever you have made for yourself, even in ideologies or with the right intent. Living by the Spirit is willing to drop and go just like the disciples did. When the Spirit says, "lead this person" or "stop what you are doing and move on", or "stop this project and move to a different one", we have to be able to be willing to listen. To wait, to hear and to recognise what He is calling us to do in every area and season of life. Life is not what it seems. The real gems, the real gold, the real treasures lie beneath the surface. They are unseen. What is sown in secret, what is laboured in tears, what is plowed in the night, that is where the real beauty and treasures lie.

A life led by the Holy Spirit is exhilarating and full of adventure. Get ready to hop on the boat for an adventure of a life time and to discover the real treasures of life. This resurrection life you received from God is not a timid, grave-tending life. It's adventurously expectant, greeting God with a childlike "What's next, Papa?" (Romans 8:15)