

## 1.6 How can a teacher be led by the Spirit in his teaching?

**It is possible to be led by God’s Spirit.**

Think about this verse: Romans 8:14 What is one thing that is true of the sons of God?

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The sons of God (and of course, daughters of God, too) are led by the Spirit of God. It is almost as if divine guidance were the norm, the expected thing.

Now consider Galatians 5:16 & 18. What two phrases seem to be parallel, or saying the same thing?

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“Walk in the Spirit” (vs 16) and “led by the Spirit” (vs. 18). Walking implies that our daily lives are guided by the Spirit step by step. This is the same thing as being led by the Spirit.

**Those who genuinely seek to be led by the Spirit, submitting their thoughts and wills to God for obedience can count on being led by the Spirit.**

Consider these verses: John 7:17 What is Jesus’ criteria or requirement for understanding His doctrine?

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We need to will to do His will. In other words, we need to have a firm intention to obey what He shows us.

**At this level, His thoughts become our thoughts. He gives us our dreams, desires and ambitions.**

Consider Psalm 37:3-5. How is it that God can give us the desires of our hearts?

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This can only happen when we trust Him so implicitly that we accept His will as best, so we delight ourselves in Him. What He wants becomes the most valuable thing to us.

**Being led by the Spirit does not mean becoming an empty slate & is not an excuse for avoiding lesson preparation.** Can you think of some Bible verses that would support this statement?

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There are, of course, many possibilities. Many verses in Proverbs as well as other places in the Bible, extol the value of planning, preparation, and diligence in work. For example, you could consider Proverbs 6:6-11, 10:4, 12:11, 13:4 and many others.

It is important to understand that the idea of wiping our minds clean like a slate so that God can write on them is not a Christian thought and does not originate in the Scriptures. It is a pagan idea. If our minds are blank, they are more open to demonic influences. God asks us to fill our minds with the Word of God, as in Psalm 119:11 , “Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.”

**God can interrupt our plans for His own purposes, but most often He works through diligently laid plans that were made while following His ways and seeking His will.**



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Getting ready for ministry involves a part for us and a part for God. Consider Poverbs 16:1. What in this verse shows that God expects preparation?

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The preparations of the heart belong to us, not to God, the Scripture says. We need to make sure we are doing our part.

Consider Proverbs 24:27. What is the teacher’s equivalent to outside work?

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Outside work is work that is constrained by time. It has to be done in a certain season. Isn’t this very much like lesson preparation, that needs to be done within a certain amount of time?

Think about the plans and preparations God made for thousands of years for the coming of the Messiah. Think about the plans and preparations that God instructed to be put into the Tabernacle and the Temple in the Old Testament. Surely God is a God of planning and preparation!

**God can guide our lesson plans & preparations.**

Consider God’s promise to believers in Psalm 32:8. If this applies to all of life, doesn’t it surely apply to planning and preparing for the teaching of God’s Word?

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Surely. Even if we don’t know what to teach, as we seek God He will instruct us, teach us, and guide us.

**Keep asking God for guidance during every step of the process.**

Consider Proverbs 2:1-5. Especially note the strong action verbs that describe how we are to seek God and His Word. Note those action verbs here.

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What were to happen if those words were regularly descriptive of your lesson preparation? How would your teaching change?

**Keep on obeying all that He tells us to do.**

God promises to guide those who seek Him, but His guidance is given for the purpose of obedience. What new steps of obedience will you take in order to be guided by God’s Spirit in your teaching preparations?

**LET’S REVIEW**

**What do believers need to do to be led by God’s Spirit?**



**What should we fill our minds with in our preparation? Why?**

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**LET'S PUT IT INTO PRACTICE**

**If another teacher told you he did not need to prepare a lesson because the Spirit of God would guide him, what would you say?**

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