

How do we tell the difference?

- First, saturate our minds with the Scriptures.

- Second, look at the character of what is being heard; in other words, is it God-like, devil-like, or me-like?

What is God like?

What is the devil like?

What are you and I like?

Even more difficult than distinguishing the Holy Spirit from the enemy is telling the difference between the Holy Spirit and our own hearts.

Three suggestions for proper discernment:

- 1) Take your time
- 2) Beware your wounds
- 3) Know your passions

"Speak for Your Servant is Listening"

1 Samuel 3:1-10

Pastor Zac Nazarian | Sep 18 - 19, 2021

When have you had a kind of "inner voice" say something?
Did you ignore it or obey it?

When you became a Christian what happened to you?

Do you believe God speaks to you directly, specifically, personally?

What are five specific things the Holy Spirit will do (*John 16:7-15*)?

1. convict the world
2. guide into all truth
3. speak only what He hears
4. tell what is yet to come
5. *"take from what is mine and make it known to you"*

The Holy Spirit is not "it". The Holy Spirit is a Person. The Holy Spirit is an involved, life-giving, Divine Person, with whom the Bible promises fellowship. (2 Corinthians 13:14)

This fellowship is to be a regular and experiential companionship.

The Holy Spirit provides direction for daily living – we are told to be "led by the Spirit" (Romans 8:14), "filled with the Spirit" (Ephesians 5:18).

We are to "pray in the Spirit" (Ephesians 6:18), "live by the Spirit" (Galatians 5:16), and "keep in step with the Spirit" (Galatians 5:25).

All these well-known commands assume that the Holy Spirit speaks to us personally in ways we can understand.

How does the Holy Spirit speak personally?

1) The most common and certain way is through the Bible.

- 2 Timothy 3:16

- 2 Peter 1:20-21

2) We find the words "the Lord said" associated with visions, dreams, an audible voice, angels, prophetic messages, and physical signs.

3) We find the language of God's personal conversation described in 1 Kings 19:12 as a gentle whisper.

4) It may come as a simple thought, one we "sense" more than "think".

- It's Spirit to spirit speech.

Our inner impressions are not always God speaking. Our thoughts can come from one of three sources:

1) God

2) the demonic

3) ourselves