

## ***Those Inner Promptings***

John 10:1-18

### **I. God speaks, first and foremost, through the Scriptures.**

*“Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.”* Psalm 119:105

### **II. The Holy Spirit will apply God’s written word to your life.**

*“But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.”* John 14:26

*“Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.”* James 1:26.

### **III. At times God will guide us through inner promptings.**

*“Now in the church at Antioch...they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’ So, after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.”* Acts 13:2-3

- A. This was not a word that had been written in Scripture.
- B. This word from God did not involve a moral injunction binding on anyone else.
- C. No passage in the Bible tells us that we should no longer expect the Holy Spirit to speak and to guide.

### **IV. How do we correctly discern the inner promptings?**

A. A sincere desire to obey  
*“I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.”* Psalm 119:11

B. A willingness to wait

*“I remain confident of this. I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord. Be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.”* Psalm 27:13-14

C. An examined heart

*“If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.”* Psalm 66:18

“Because Satan understands the potential of prayer far better than we, he has developed cunning strategies to clog the asking-receiving channel. An unforgiving spirit, bitterness, secret sexual sins—the list is endless—can stymie our praying. Every sin we hide and justify becomes a hindrance to bold, confident prayer to the Father.”  
Cymbala, Jim. Breakthrough Prayer (Kindle Locations 1027-1029). Zondervan. Kindle Edition.

D. Consult mature believers for their discernment

E. When you sense God may be speaking, write it down

### **V. You won’t always get it right, but God will always honor your desire to obey**