

Volume 2, Day 2: Giving Credit to Whom It Is Due

It's not about perfection. You've got to lose your need to be perfect. You must abandon the need to get everything right every day or otherwise you can't follow him. Once you've done this, you are ready to go on a different journey or at least a better route to take you to your destination.

This new way requires that you be ready to listen carefully to His small voice. You must be ready instantly follow Him when He gives you His guidance. You must pay attention to see what unfolds as the day goes on. If you can only trust Him to the degree that you are able to do everything right or perfectly, then basically you're still trusting in your own performance. And that will never be good enough.

So how do you know if you're listening to His voice and not your own? Well, I think it's this way. As you are listening to Him, is the Fruit of the Spirit becoming more evident to others in your life? Are you offering more grace, more tenderness and more humility? When I surrender the moment to the Holy Spirit within me, then and only then, is His Fruit seen. The Fruit of the Spirit is not my spirit's fruit.

Have you ever noticed that the way God speaks to us is **not** with blinding clarity. It is not so obvious that we should declare, "Thus says the Lord," or "God told me to." Many of the people I've met who use that kind of language about listening to God really are **not**. It might be better to say things like, "I have a sense that God might want this," or "I'm thinking God is leading me to do this." Some people are actually 'using God's name in vain' to add authority to their own opinions. Unless you are completely certain that it is His directive, don't claim that it is. However, it is better to be misunderstood and judged than to not give God specific credit when it belongs to Him.