

# PRACTICING DISCERNMENT

February 22, 2026

## INTRODUCTION

Discernment: the process and ability of evaluating the quality of something

Process: a means by which we evaluate something

Ability: skill that is developed through time and practice

Decisions impact destiny:

Humans: ability to be deceived and distracted (2 Cor. 4:4, 11:14-15)

**KEY POINT: Better discernment leads to better decisions**

**TEXT: John 14:16-17**

- **We don't journey through life alone**

As followers of Jesus: we do not journey through life alone...

God is with us, His Spirit lives in us: He is a dynamic helper no matter where we are or what we are going through

- **God wants to be involved in our moments**

Spirit given to help us live the life we were created for

- GUIDE: provide direction
- TEACH: provide insight that we might glorify God, reflect Jesus, and grow spiritually
- CONVICT: warning lights about sin, righteousness and judgment
- COMFORT: calm our hearts and steady our souls as we live in a broken world and deal with brokenness
- EMPOWER: enables us to accomplish the Divine purpose with our lives

- **Growing our spiritual sensitivity increases our missional impact**

Wants to speak into our moments to lead us into His purpose

Divine moments, Divine appointments, Divine opportunities

**Practicing Discernment:**

**1. Asking the Question**

What God up to in this moment?

**2. Sensitizing our Hearts**

Dealing with Sin: Sin desensitizes

Quieting our hearts in his presence

The Baptism in the Holy Spirit

**3. Evaluating our Hearing (1 Thess. 5:19-22)**

“Test the Spirit”

Scripture (Heb. 6:12) and Mature People (Acts 15:28)

**4. Growing our love (Php. 1:9-10)**

For God and Others

**RESPONSE:** Lord, help us be aware of what you are speaking in the midst of our moments