
2. It is easy to assume that “supernatural” guidance is the “best” and that the “wisdom way” is second-rate. This is a great mistake.

3. When there is not “clear” indication of what to do, God is likely using one or more of the following to guide you:

- a. Concerted prayer,
- b. Working in you to yield the final decision to Him,
- c. Having enough humility to ask for counsel,
- d. Working in you to trust Him,
- e. Working in you to step out in faith.
- f. The process of competing values. When we are confused there are often values that “compete” with each other, each leading us in a different direction. God uses this time of confusion to help us recognize the most important values and adopt them as ours.

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Principles of God’s Guidance

Discerning God’s Will—part 6

July 9, 2017

Several things are certain:

- a. God leads on His timetable, not ours.
- b. God leads us in the manner of His choosing, not ours.
- c. God can certainly lead through what we consider “supernatural” guidance, but in the bible, it is comparatively rare, though obviously “exciting.”

Why doesn’t God lead us using more “supernatural” guidance?

Acts 15:36 Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us go back and visit the brothers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing."

³⁷ Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them, ³⁸ but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work.

³⁹ They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company. Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus,

⁴⁰ but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord.

⁴¹ He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

“Closed doors”

Acts 16:6 Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia.

■ *⁷ When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to.* ■

■ *Acts 16:8 So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas.* ■

Supernatural guidance

■ *Acts 16:9 During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."* ■

■ ■

The mixture of “supernatural” guidance and guidance through leadership

Acts 16:10 After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them. ■

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Some concluding principles...

1. The tendency is to either expect supernatural guidance as normative or to limit supernatural guidance to biblical times, only.
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