

## Spiritual Discipline: Guidance

Proverbs 3:5–6 (NIV84)

- <sup>5</sup> *Trust in the LORD with all your heart  
and lean not on your own understanding;*  
<sup>6</sup> *in all your ways acknowledge him,  
and he will make your paths straight.*

1. What does the above scripture passage teach us about receiving God's guidance?
2. Reflect and comment on Richard Foster's quote below:  
"Guidance is the most radical of the Disciplines because it goes to the heart of this matter of walking with God. Guidance means the glorious life of hearing God's voice and obeying His word." (Foster, *The Celebration of Discipline Study Guide*, 68)
3. Discuss the various ways that believers can hear God's voice today?
  - a. Specifically, what role does the Bible play in hearing God's voice?
  - b. Does God still speak through dreams, visions, signs, and angels? If so, what cautions/guidelines should be remembered before receiving guidance from one of these exceptional means?
  - c. Is it possible that there are voices other than God's that might be speaking to us (see 1 John 4:1 before answering)?
  - d. Jesus said that he is the Good Shepherd and His sheep know his voice (John 10:4). How can we be sure that we are listening to the voice of the true Shepherd?
  - e. What role does the church (the Body of Christ) play in helping us hear God's voice?
  - f. What role does the Holy Spirit play in helping us to hear God's voice (see John 16:13 and surrounding context)?
4. How do some of the other Spiritual Disciplines help us when seeking guidance (e.g., study, prayer, fasting, worship, etc.)?
5. Foster writes, "The goal of guidance is not specific instructions about this or that matter but conformity to the Image of Christ" (Foster, 68). As you have sought the Lord of late, what area of your life needs more conformity to the Image of Christ?
6. Share with your group an area of your life in which you are currently seeking guidance (be sure and pray for these areas before you conclude your meeting)?
7. Specifically, how can we practice the Discipline of Guidance this week?