

Reflections on a Spirit-led Life, Part I

Scripture used: [Psalms 25:4-5 \(NIV\)](#)

OVERVIEW

After completing our 9-week series “Peel: What’s Under Your Skin?” about the 9 aspects of the Fruit of the Holy Spirit, Pastor Hurmon started a 2-part sermon reflecting on what it means for us to be led by the Spirit in our daily lives. Pastor Hurmon built off the core idea that Paul describes in [Galatians 5:22-23 \(NLT\)](#): that there is “no law” or “no rule” that shapes people all by itself. The key is developing godly character, not coming up with more restrictions. Without character, we will find ways to work around the rules to get what we think we want. With character, we follow the rules instinctively because we are in healthy relationship with both God and the people around us. That is a Spirit-led life, and God can use such a life to bless the world in many powerful ways. Pastor Hurmon just returned from his old church in Boston, where the Spirit led that community to raise over \$50 million to fund the [Dearborn STEM Academy](#), which sent 100% of its graduates to college last year. Imagine what NBCC can accomplish!

KEY POINTS

- 1) **Decide to devote our lives to God.** In [Galatians 5:25 \(NLT\)](#), Paul says we should “follow the Spirit’s leading in every part of our lives.” That is hard for many of us, since we often want God to use His power to fulfill our desires rather than accomplish His goal of redeeming the world. But once we make this decision, we enter into a true relationship with God. We put our trust in Him, as it says in [Psalm 25:1 \(NIV\)](#).
- 2) **Seek understanding of God’s ways.** There are many potential signs from God in our lives. We have to learn to interpret the world around us by asking God for understanding and wisdom. Two of the ways God can work in our lives include “open doors” and “divine leadings.”
 - a. **God works in our lives - open doors.** There are moments when God connects us with unique opportunities or relationships that align with His purpose for our lives. Pastor Hurmon calls them “God moments.” We have to be sensitive, trust, and act on these invitations from God.
 - b. **God works on our lives - divine leadings.** Sometimes God speaks to us through a whisper, which often resonates with our intuition or may simply be an unusual prompting. Many times, God nudges us in a direction that we need to move, that we might otherwise be resistant to. For example, each of us has a lot of room for personal growth. God shows us these opportunities, often through the people around us (such as a spouse or coworker). At first our attitude tends to be defensive, but over time we can yield to God’s whisper and appreciate the value of corrective feedback. That’s God leading us to our better selves!
- 3) **Connect God’s ways to our lives.** God can and should show up every day, teaching us as described in [Psalm 25:5 \(NIV\)](#). How exactly does God want us to act? The answer is often found in Scripture, in prayer, or at church. One exposure per week is not enough. Research confirms that our memory betrays us. In fact, we forget 95% of what we hear within a day and a half! Instead of once a week, engage deeply with God’s Word and act on it. Try to discover the deeper principles that are shared across the Old and New Testaments. These deeper principles will inform and inspire us, and that helps expand the value of attending church. We learn best as we take practical action. In this way, we can be led more by the Spirit!

DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** - Last week week Pastor Dan Monroe told us how he had believed in Jesus for over 60 years, but had followed him for much less time. It took him a while to let God direct his life! Most of us start off as believers, and it’s a struggle to truly become a follower of Jesus. Where are you challenged right now in your beliefs? Where are you challenged right now in the call to follow Jesus?
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** - Pastor Hurmon reminded us that it’s not enough to just hear God’s message. We also need to see it, to say it, to write it, and then to do it! Our brokenness makes this very hard to do. Where do you tend to fail in this process of hear, see, say, write, and do? Why do you think you stop there? How could you take steps to ensure God’s message gets incorporated into your daily life?
- 3) **DO** - Turning over our lives to God is a scary idea. Smart small by focusing on a single area where you feel ready to let God direct you. Read [Psalm 25:5 \(NKJV\)](#) and pray to God each day this week to show up in that specific part of your life.