

Developing your Spiritual Sensitivity #3

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INTRO.

I want to jump right in this morning by reminding you of a few key principles that I have already shared with you:

First - - You were designed to be spiritually sensitive

You are a spirit being by the mere fact that you have been made in the image of God ... God is spirit and HE created you from His very being.

Genesis 1:11 Names of God Bible

Then Elohim said, “Let the earth produce vegetation: plants bearing seeds, each according to its own type, and fruit trees bearing fruit with seeds, each according to its own type.” And so, it was.

Genesis 1:24 Names of God Bible

Then Elohim said, “Let the earth produce every type of living creature: every type of domestic animal, crawling animal, and wild animal.” And so, it was.

Gen. 1:26-27 NOG

Then Elohim said, “Let us make humans in our image, in our likeness ... So, Elohim created humans in His image. ... In the image of Elohim, He created them ... He created them male and female.

Second - - Your flesh develops its spiritual sensitivity through external experiences and patterns

John 4:19 New King James Version

The woman said to Him, “Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet.

2 Kings 4:8-9 New Living Translation

Elisha and the Woman from Shunem

One day Elisha went to the town of Shunem. ... A wealthy woman lived there, and she urged him to come to her home for a meal. ... After that, whenever he passed that way, he would stop there for something to eat.

Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

9 And she said to her husband, Behold now, **I perceive** that this is a holy man of God who passes by continually.

Third - - The spirit man develops its spiritual sensitivity through inward experiences and patterns

Mark 2:5-8 New King James Version

When **Jesus saw their faith**, *{fleshly perception}* - He said to the paralytic, - “Son, your sins are forgiven you.” ... 6 And some of the scribes were sitting there and - **reasoning in their hearts**, ... 7 “Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? ... Who can forgive sins but God alone?” ... 8 But immediately, - when **Jesus perceived in His spirit** - that they reasoned thus within themselves, - He said to them, “Why do you reason about these things in your hearts?”

Acts 16:17-18 New Living Translation

17 She followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, “These men are servants of the Most High God, and they have come to tell you how to be saved.” ... 18 This went on day after day until **Paul got so exasperated** that he turned and said to the demon within her, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And instantly it left her.

Galatians 2:9 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

And when they knew - (**perceived**, recognized, understood, and acknowledged) - the grace (God’s unmerited favor and **spiritual blessing**) that had been bestowed upon me, - James and Cephas (Peter) and John, - who were reputed to be pillars of the Jerusalem church, - gave to me

and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, with the understanding that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised (Jews).

Practical Principles to Develop yourself to Become more Spiritually Sensitive

Be very Careful How you “See” things

John 20:25 Amplified Bible

So, the other disciples kept telling him, - - “We have seen the Lord!” ... But he said to them, - - **“Unless I see** - in His hands the marks of the nails, - and put my finger into the nail prints, - and put my hand into His side, ... **I will never believe.”**

Luke 11:34-35 Amplified Bible

The eye is the lamp of your body. ... When your eye is clear [*spiritually perceptive, focused on God*], - your whole body also is full of light [benefiting from God’s precepts]. ... But when it is bad [spiritually blind], your body also is full of darkness [devoid of God’s word]. ... 35 Be careful, therefore, that the light that is in you is not darkness.

Genesis 3:7 The Voice

Suddenly their eyes were opened - to a reality previously unknown. ... For the first time, - they sensed their vulnerability - and rushed to hide their naked bodies, - stitching fig leaves into crude loincloths.

Be Careful How you “Hear” Things

Hebrews 3:7-8 Easy English Bible

God's Holy Spirit says this: - **‘You must listen when you hear God speak today.** ... 8 Do not refuse to obey Him. ... Do not be like God's people many years ago. ... When they travelled in the wilderness, - they turned against Me. ... They wanted to see if I would punish them.

Develop a Lifestyle of Sacrifice

Psalms 51:16-17 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

For You delight not in sacrifice, - or else would I give it; ... You find no pleasure in burnt offering. ... 17 My sacrifice [the sacrifice acceptable] to God - **is a broken spirit**; - **a broken and a contrite heart** [broken down with sorrow for sin and humbly and thoroughly penitent], such, O God, - You will not despise.

Deuteronomy 4:24 The Voice

The Eternal - your God burns with jealousy - - when you're not completely loyal to Him.

The church as a whole doesn't understand this concept of sacrifice and the importance it has in expanding our spirit man.

Acts 4:32 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

Now the company of believers was of one heart and soul, and not one of them claimed that anything which he possessed was [exclusively] his own, but everything they had was in common and for the use of all.

Acts 7:59-60 New Living Translation

As they stoned him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ... 60 He fell to his knees, shouting, "Lord, don't charge them with this sin!" And with that, he died.

Genesis 22:10 New Living Translation

And Abraham picked up the knife to kill his son as a sacrifice.