

- Discernment is a key _____ of growth.

Hebrews 5:14 *But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*

- Discernment is a sign of _____ and _____.
- Discernment is dependent on the _____ indwelling.

1 Corinthians 2:14 *But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

- If we lack discernment, we will follow our _____ desires or the desires of _____ over God's Word.

1 Kings 13:1-10 *And, behold, there came a man of God out of Judah by the word of the LORD unto Bethel: and Jeroboam stood by the altar to burn incense. 2 And he cried against the altar in the word of the LORD, and said, O altar, altar, thus saith the LORD; Behold, a child shall be born unto the house of David, Josiah by name; and upon thee shall he offer the priests of the high places that burn incense upon thee, and men's bones shall be burnt upon thee. 3 And he gave a sign the same day, saying, This is the sign which the LORD hath spoken; Behold, the altar shall be rent, and the ashes that are upon it shall be poured out. 4 And it came to pass, when king Jeroboam heard the saying of the man of God, which had cried against the altar in Bethel, that he put forth his hand from the altar, saying, Lay hold on him. And his hand, which he put forth against him, dried up, so that he could not pull it in again to him. 5 The altar also was rent, and the ashes poured out from the altar, according to the sign which the man of God had given by the word of the LORD. 6 And the king answered and said unto the man of God, Intreat now the face of the LORD thy God, and pray for me, that my hand may be restored me again. And the man of God besought the LORD, and the king's hand was restored him again, and became as it was before. 7 And the king said unto the man of God, Come home with me, and refresh thyself, and I will give thee a reward. 8 And the man of God said unto the king, If thou wilt give me half thine house, I will not go in with thee, neither will I eat bread nor drink water in this place: 9 For so was it charged me by the word of the LORD, saying, Eat no bread, nor drink water, nor turn again by the same way that thou camest. 10 So he went another way, and returned not by the way that he came to Bethel.*

1 Kings 13:18-19 *He said unto him, I am a prophet also as thou art; and an angel spake unto me by the word of the LORD, saying, Bring him back with thee into thine house, that he may eat bread and drink water. But he lied unto him. 19 So he went back with him, and did eat bread in his house, and drank water.*

1 Kings 13:23-24 *And it came to pass, after he had eaten bread, and after he had drunk, that he saddled for him the ass, to wit, for the prophet whom he had brought back. 24 And when he was gone, a lion met him by the way, and slew him:*

- Our level of discernment is tied to our level of commitment to _____ to and _____ God's word.



MIDWEEK SERVICE | THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Disciples Accept Requirements IX

REVIEW

6. The Requirement of Discernment

- Discernment is the ability to make judgments, to distinguish between and recognize the moral implications of different decisions, situations and courses of action.
- a. **Discernment is an understanding that guides our decisions.**

Psalm 119:24 *Thy testimonies also are my delight and my counsellors.*

NEW LESSON

- b. **Discernment is an understanding that sees the _____ of a decision before it happens.**

- We build _____ based on the stated truths of scripture.
- Then we build _____ in our life based on the conviction.

Deuteronomy 7:2-4 *And when the Lord thy God shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt smite them, and utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them: 3 Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son. 4 For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the Lord be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly.*

1 Kings 11:1-6 *But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites; 2 Of the nations concerning which the Lord said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. 3 And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. 4 For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God, as was the heart of David his father. 5 For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites. 6 And Solomon did evil in the sight of the Lord, and went not fully after the Lord, as did David his father.*

2 Corinthians 6:14 *Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?*

1 Corinthians 7:39 *The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord.*

- **Conviction:** I am not to marry an _____.
- **Discernment:** (Standard) If I'm not to marry an unbeliever, then I will not become involved in a _____ with one.

c. Discernment is an understanding that _____ us on how we should act before we act.

- The spiritual discernment that a disciple is to have is based on _____.

John 17:17 *Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*

- An _____ of the truth.
- An _____ of the truth.
- A _____ to the truth.
- An _____ to the truth.

Let's put these all together: Friendships.

Proverbs 13:20 *He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.*

- The _____.
- There are _____ associated with who I am a companion of.
- There are _____ associated with whom I am a companion of
- The _____.

- If I am a companion of the _____, it will help to make me **wise**.
- If I am a companion of a _____, it will be **destructive** to my life.
- The _____.
- **I am going to follow** God's _____ for who I should associate with.
- **I will not let anything** other than God's guidelines _____ who I associate with.
- The _____.
- I will only have close associates who are _____, a person who seeks God's truth so he can live it.
- I will not be a companion of a _____, one who does not have a life dedicated to following God's truth.
- Discernment is a sign of spiritual _____ and committed _____ to the previous truth learned.

Hebrews 5:12-14 *For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. 13 For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. 14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*

John 7:16-17 *Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me. 17 If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.*

Final thoughts on discernment

- Discernment is a key ingredient of spiritual _____.

1 Kings 3:5-10 *In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee. 6 And Solomon said, Thou hast shewed unto thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with thee; and thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day. 7 And now, O LORD my God, thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in. 8 And thy servant is in the midst of thy people which thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude. 9 Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy great a people? 10 And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.*

- Discernment is a key _____ of spiritual leaders.

Ezekiel 44:23 *And they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.*