

Key Scriptures: Mark 4:35 "*And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, **Let us pass over unto the other side.***"

We began last week saying that the world is in transition, the Church is also in transition. From last week, we established that there are three components of every transition story. We also said that transition is purposeful, purposeful transition is in due time and it is initiated by the voice of God. Our focus today will be on the leading/ the voice of the Lord. The clear voice of God is very crucial for the Church at this time. It is the basis for our faith and our conviction.

Revelations 1:18 says: "*I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.*" Concerning the leading of Jesus, there are two key things to note.

1. **He is Alive.** This is the first and most important factor for the acceptance of His leadership. It is important to note, because we are not conjuring a spirit. The fact that He is alive, which is the foundation for our faith, is the basis for which we can trust Him. *Revelations 1:18.* It is also important to note that God had a voluntarily human experience, so He can identify with any logical reason to doubt Him. When His instruction comes, seeing He is alive and has had a human experience, we have no basis to say, "God you do not understand". One thing every believer will acknowledge is the leading of the Lord. *Psalm 86:10-12.* However, it is the inability to trust him that becomes the issue. It takes repenting and time to be able to come to a place of trust. By choice, He became man so He can identify with us. Just as He trusted the Father, the expectation is that we trust Him.
2. The second thing we must know regarding the leadings of the Lord can be seen in *Revelation 1:12-13*: "*And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; [13] And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.*"

We must realize that the Living Jesus dwells within His Church, both corporately and fundamentally. His voice is within His house, Hence *Isaiah 2:2* says come and let us go into the house of the Lord. Why? Because His voice is there. This should be our advantage in these times. Looking at the year 2020, it is clear that human strength has failed. The only solution is where the voice of the Lord is. The church is not only a place of instruction, but it is a place of solution for the world. The Lord dwells in His house and so the voice of the Lord is not scarce. We are not disjoined for Him, *Galatians 4:6*. Many people get into a lot of trouble because they look for a complex sensation of the leading of the Lord. However, when we realize that He lives in us and we are one with the guiding Spirit, it makes sense to receive from Him and follow the nudging of the Spirit.

Understanding the Leading of the Lord

We will speak corporately and establish the need to understand the leading of the Lord and then individually.

1. **The Spirit of the Lord is the channel for the current speakings of God.** *Revelations 2:7,11, Revelations 17, 1 timothy 4:1*. We see the Lord saying over and over again that He that has an hear should hear what the Spirit says to the church. The Spirit amplifies and gives seasonal speaking to the Church. He gives a "now- view" of the mind of God, still within the confinements of the scriptures. There are clear instructions in the bible on some things, E.g. in *Matthew 28:19*, we are asked to go into the world to preach the gospel. However, the bible does not explicitly show what to do when there is a pandemic. The bible gives us an account of a time when there was a famine, acts 11:28, by the reason of revelation, the church was not just spared, but was able to provide a haven for others. One of the benefits of being in a place where Jesus alone is the focus is the ability to know the mind of God per season, per time. There have been many casualties as a result of people falling outside of the symbolic cloud. One thing the Lord is going to be doing now is to make His voice louder. He has a past view, a current view and a perfect view of every situation.

2. **He speaks within the boundaries of the Word of God.** This is the safety for prophetic speaking. There is need for a corporate leading and also on an individual level. *Job 29:1-3* shows that by the Light of God we walk through darkness. We stated last week that the world is in a symbolic evening time. However, by His light, we walk through darkness. There is an advantage in clear precise direction for the body. We have access to the Word of God. One thing that will separate the world from the Church is perspective. The bible says do not fear their fear, *Isaiah 8:12*. Two people can be going through the same thing and their experience is different.

Declare it "By Light I walk through darkness"

The bible says pay heed to the clear word of prophesy, *2 Peter 1:19*.

The Lord has been instructing us on two specific things. The emphasis in these times has been the love walk and the call to consecration. One thing that is synonymous with every story of transition is rising storms and wave. Why would the Lord be speaking to us about a love walk? When there is great increase, there is a higher tendency for strife. Transition brings about the winds, great thunderstorm and waves. Considering the woman in *Revelations 12:15-16*, the woman speaks of the church. There are things that come when there is an increase in a body. Either an external flood or an internal flood. If there is strength within, the external flood will not be an issue. This external flood usually comes by persecution. The internal flood is of a greater focus and importance to underline. This has to do with contention and a lack of appreciation for one another. When the flood increases, we are to extend in our capacity to love. Learning to trust God for the best for one another. With great transition comes the wind and it is released by the serpent.

For the past few years, the Lord had been speaking to us beyond ourselves, bringing up things for nations; solution based counsel for the nations. By light we walk through darkness. Looking at *Mark 4:35-40*, the Lord moves in the direction of His will. The Lord initiated the move. There is great assurance in leading of the Lord. When He initiates the move, He goes with you. Sometimes, the Lord communicates something to us and because of insecurity, there is fear. However, there is one thing to be clear about, His Voice can be trusted. We see an example of Elijah in *1 Kings 17:4*. God had already commanded the ravens to feed Him when He asked him to go towards the east of Jordan. Our greatest safety is where the Lord has instructed us. There is always a temptation to look outside what God has said. When the Lord initiates a move, He backs it up with His presence, we have the Lord as a protection. We see in *Numbers 23:1* where Balak asked Balaam to curse Israel, His reply was interesting. He said God did not find iniquity in them. This was because they were following the leading of the Lord, even though they were murmuring. There is safety in the Leading of the Lord. It takes faith to trust the Lord, because the Lord wants to be trusted. This is a very important factor in transition, faith in God and total focus on Him. God has gone before you, there is assurance in His leading. It does not matter how boisterous the winds are. He moves in the direction of His leading. The wind stops at the command of the Lord. Again, two things are important in a transition; what He said before the transition and the consciousness of His presence during the transition.

The Leading of the Lord

1. **It comes as a Knowing.** Looking at *Number 9:15-18*, we see the way the Lord led the Israelites. Both individually and corporately we see the movement according to the instruction of the LORD. The instruction of the LORD was not always vocal but a cooperate understanding about what the LORD was saying. It comes as a knowing of what the Lord is doing, *1 John 2:20*. The people of Israel did not hear any utterance, they only saw the cloud and they knew what to do. As we move with the Lord, there will be specific instructions that will come as knowing. *1 Corinthians 2:9, 1 John 5:6*.

2. **It comes as a burden.** *Nehemiah 1:1-5* shows a story of Nehemiah as someone who bears the burden for His people. A burden is a full-fledged communication of the Lord's Word to us. *Matthew 11:28* says come unto Me all who are burdened. It is a privilege to bear the burden of the Lord. As said last week, burdens are an indication of the Call of the Lord upon your life. Moses was a person who also had a burden, but he let anger affect the expression of his burden, *Exodus 2*. He was born to be a deliverer of Israel.

3. **It comes via the Word of the Lord.** *Psalms 119:105, Numbers 9:22-23*. The Lord also gives commands expressly via His Word. He speaks express commands through His Word and through individuals who *revelations 1:20* calls stars of the churches. What is the current charge to the house? What is the Lord saying in this season? The Lord has expressly spoken to us regarding our consecration and our love walk. The safety of the church is in the unity of the Church. The time is coming where we will need counsel for nations. However, we need to learn how to trust Him in the little things. As we continue in this, the Lord will lead us to weightier matters. Not so long from now, the world will hear the voice of the Son of God.

God is always speaking. Concerning transitions, both the ability to hear before and during the transition are important. Hearing is a heritage, not just a privilege of the Sons of God.

Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," Whenever you turn to the right hand Or whenever you turn to the left.

Isaiah 30:21

The grace of the Lord be with Your spirit