

A Different Take on Being Spirit Led

I want to share my experience with you and what I've discovered.

When I was young it was common to hear someone say, "He is his father's son". This expression is not 'politically correct' these days, but back then it was full of meaning. It meant that the boy or young man was just like his father in looks and/or character. To hear it was a huge compliment if your father was well respected in the community or was known for some particular characteristic such as being highly skilled, knowledgeable, generous or altruistic. Of course, it was a 'back-hander' if your dad was a 'crook' or a 'dead beat'.

Jesus was his Father's son. That's what he told his disciples – but not like we would say it. He told his disciples that they'd already seen Father because they'd seen him.¹

The Greek word used² for 'seen' is *horaō* (ὁράω). This means to 'to see with the eyes', but there are other meanings where it is not used optically:³

- to see with the mind, to perceive, to **know**
- to see, i.e. **become acquainted with** by experience, to **experience**
- to see, to look to
- to take heed, beware
- to care for, pay heed to
- I was seen, showed myself, appeared

The idea of seeing with the eyes is included in the meanings of 'seen' in the Greek (see above). But, note the highlighted meanings in the list that are quite different to that. 'Know', 'be acquainted with' and 'experience' are all valid meanings for 'see' based on usage in the 1st century. Why do we think the meaning of 'seen' in what Jesus said, to be knowing what Father looks like? The reason is that we haven't been taught any different. Also, because our English Bible translations stick to the KJV rendering.

So "seen" is not just about Jesus looking like Father. It means the disciples knew what Father was like because they had been with Jesus and experiencing Jesus. This describes an intimate knowledge of what Father is like.

As Kingdom citizens, our job is to become our Father's son so we're like him in character and in the way we speak and operate.

Did you realise that we're also to speak for him from what we know of him through our experiences, as well as what he has spoken to us intimately? This is how Jesus functioned – he said it was that way.

John 8:28 (AMP) – *"I do nothing on My own authority, but I say these things just as My Father taught Me. And He who sent Me is [always] with Me; He has not left Me alone, because I always do what pleases Him."*

John 8:38 (TPT⁴) – *"The truths I speak I've seen and received in my Father's presence."*

John 8:38 (AMP) – *"I tell the things that I have seen at My Father's side [in His very presence]"*

John 5:19 (TPT) – *"I speak to you timeless truth. The Son is not able to do anything from himself or through my own initiative. I only do the works that I see the Father doing, for the Son does the same works as his Father."*

1 – John 14:9

2 – In John 14:9

3 – Strong #G3708 www.bibletools.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/Lexicon.show/ID/G3708/horao.htm

4 – The Passion Translation

John 5:19 (AMP) – “The Son can do nothing of Himself [of His own accord], unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever things the Father does, the Son [in His turn] also does in the same way.”

These quotes show definitively that Jesus operated in a different way to the technique the Apostles taught their converts. Christians today would explain away Jesus’ method of speaking and doing by stating that he was God in flesh so he could function like Father. Therefore, their logic goes, we can’t do it like him. BUT – and that’s a big ‘but’ – he gave up his deity and became as a man, a human being like you and me.⁵ The only difference was that he was sired by Holy Spirit, not Joseph. This is why he was a perfect human – he wasn’t in the lineage of Adam on his natural father’s side.

So, how do we understand the way we are to function as Father’s sons? It starts here: The man, Jesus, is our prototype. He was the first spirit-filled human being and we are no different to him in that respect.

The Spirit in-filled Jesus when he was baptised⁶. That’s what happens to us when we’re spiritually reborn.⁷ There is a slight difference, though. For him, his spirit was already perfect because it wasn’t corrupted by Adam’s flesh nature through Holy Spirit being his ‘father’. All he needed was to be filled with the Spirit. Therefore, he was anointed in this way for the few remaining years of work he had to do.

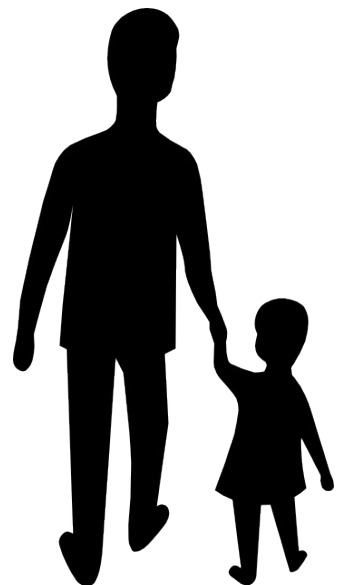
We know from Paul’s teaching that Father’s sons (us) have the ability to be led by Holy Spirit.⁸ This is our hallmark. This leading brings us out from under the Law⁹ and frees us to operate as sons, not slaves. We might be ‘servants’, to the extent we serve the wishes of the King, but we are not servants in the manner of slavery.

Let’s see what it really means to be Spirit-led.

We have the idea from the pulpit teaching we have received that being led by the Spirit is doing exactly what the Spirit tells us. This image we are given is that of a child having a parent grab their hand and take them where they want the child to go. That’s the ‘picture’ we get, even if it’s not expressed to us that way. But, is this how it’s supposed to be?

The Greek word used¹⁰ for ‘led’ is *agō* (ἄγω). This word means to ‘take one somewhere’. It’s used in the following ways, but there are others which are not relevant to this topic:¹¹

- to lead
- to lead by laying hold of, and this way to bring to the point of destination: as you would do with an animal
- to lead by **accompanying** to (into) a place
- to **guide, direct**
- to lead through, conduct to something
- to move, impel by forces and influences on the mind



The image of grabbing a child’s hand and taking them somewhere by controlling them is included in the meanings of ‘led’ in the Greek (see above). But, note the highlighted meanings in the list that are quite different to that. ‘Accompany’, ‘guide’ and ‘direct’ are all passive modes of leading.

5 – See Philippians 2:7 (AMP & The Message)

6 – John 1:32

7 – John 3:5-8

8 – Romans 8:14

9 – Galatians 5:18

10 – In Romans 8:14

11 – Strong #G71 www.bibletools.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/Lexicon.show/ID/G71/ago.htm

Why do we attribute the active, forceful, meanings of ‘leading’ to what the Spirit wants to do with us?

Could it be that Holy Spirit wants to coax us to do the King’s bidding? Could coaxing be because we are treated as autonomous beings, instead of treating us like toddlers and wanting to drag us everywhere? The latter interpretation causes those who are eager to please the Trinity to desire the Spirit to tell them everything they need to do and say. That is, to impose his will on theirs. This is the traditional Christian understanding of being Spirit-led and that’s stronger among Charismatics and Pentecostals.

This is how the expression ‘Led by the Spirit’ can be translated more accurately from an understanding of Greek, Hebrew and Aramaic.

Romans 8:14 (TPT¹²) – *The mature children of God are those¹³ who are moved by the impulses of the Holy Spirit.*

Now that’s more passive than active, isn’t it. This is more like guidance rather than compelling us to comply.

In the record of what Jesus taught in the four gospels there’s no teaching that he gave to his disciples about being Spirit-led (from my investigations). There’s nothing in his teaching comparable to what’s in the epistles about how to follow the Spirit’s lead. Instead, his life demonstrated what it’s like to be totally Spirit-led. Because of his intimate relationship with Father, he just did what he heard Father saying.¹⁴ That was his normal spiritual lifestyle. In one instance it is recorded that the Spirit led him to do something,¹⁵ but that’s the only one.

The Spirit hadn’t been released to believers when Jesus was teaching his disciples, although it was recorded that he said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit”. He breathed on them for that purpose only and they went out to do what he said to do. He didn’t tell them to listen to what the Holy Spirit told them. He just instructed them to heal the sick, raise the dead and set the captives free. They went out and did that, and things happened, without any indication that Holy Spirit told them what to do. According to their report back to Jesus, the disciples never mentioned that they followed the Spirit, only that they did what they were told. When they told Jesus of their spiritual exploits, he said “I saw Satan fall like lightning”. In other words, Satan’s dominant authority was superseded by the authority and power the disciples had from Heaven. This is exactly the image found in Revelation.

[This sheds a whole new light on what it means to be Spirit-led.](#)

Currently, the indication of genuine spirituality in the Charismatic and Pentecostal systems is being led by the Spirit. What should this look like? One of our Community members experienced what it was like when Jesus was in the ‘driving seat’ of his life for a few days. I’ll let him tell you what happened and what he experienced.

- **Read his experience here:** [LINK](#)¹⁶

This same way of being Spirit-led happens when I prophesy. I’m not compelled to speak something. Instead, it’s as if Jesus is standing next to me and letting me speak for him, with his full authority. That probably seems heretical to my readers, however, he gave me this download concerning what was happening:

“You know my heart. You know what I want to tell this person. You know what I want to tell these people. Tell them. Tell them what’s on my heart. I’ll prompt you whenever you need prompting. I trust

12 – The Passion Translation

13 – The Greek is quite emphatic: “Those and only those”.

14 – John 8:38

15 – Matthew 4:1

16 – Jose Henriquez (3-9-2020) “Oneness Experience”

canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Oneness-Experience-Jose-Henriquez.pdf

*you to tell them because you are speaking for me like an ambassador speaks for the king. Don't let them disparage the way that you do it or how you do it, because it's me that's being transferred to these listeners. Don't stop. Don't change. You're on the right track.”*¹⁷

To be Spirit-led rather than being totally controlled by the Spirit, you need to follow these guidelines:

- Be careful to do what you know you can do, &
- Know what you're supposed to do.

Otherwise, outside of these parameters, you can easily move into foolishness or presumption¹⁸.

There's a lot more on this topic, especially concerning the difference in Spirit-leading when we operate as a son at a higher level of Kingdom maturity.

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17 – Message received and recorded on 29-5-2020

18 – “05-Faith, Foolishness and Presumption” canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/05-Faith-Foolishness-and-Presumption.pdf