**Eastside Life Church**

**Convergence – Part 3**

*Discernment*

**1 Timothy 4:1** *Now the Spirit* ***expressly*** *says that in latter times* ***some*** *will depart from the faith, giving heed to* ***deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons****,* ***2****speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,…*

**2 Peter 2:1-3** – false prophets & teachers use deceit therefore we need \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**How to develop discernment:**

The issue: sometimes things are not as they appear.

1. **Make it your business** (like Jesus) to get \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_in your spirit - [**Psalm 119:130**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+119:130&version=NKJV)

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ againstthe whole counsel of the written word: - **Matthew 4:8-10**

3. **Develop your relationship** with the HS( to be able to recognize His teaching) **- 1 John 2:20,27**

4. **Receive** from God appointed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_- **Ephesians 4:11-14**

**We need ‘sound’ doctrine (teaching) Vs false, deceitful doctrine.**

[**2 Timothy 4:3**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Timothy+4:3&version=NKJV)

*For the time will come when they will not endure* ***sound******doctrine****, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;*

**Hebrews 6:1-2**

*Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,* ***2****of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.*

**Final Word:**

**2 Peter 3:3-14**– be alert, look forward to Christ’s return. He will fulfill His promise.

**Resources: ‘For further study’**

*Knowing the Enemy’s Voice*

*(excerpt from the booklet : “The sound of His Voice”*

When the Lord speaks, His voice is always clear. However, we may experience ‘spiritual static.’ The enemy, the ways of the ‘world’ system, and our ‘fleshly’ appetites all serve to create this ‘spiritual static,’ and we have to learn to ‘tune in’ to the pure and clear channel on which the Lord is broadcasting.

We cannot afford to be ignorant of the enemy’s wiles and schemes. Satan takes advantage of ignorance, and even the best intentioned of God’s people can be destroyed through a lack of revelation knowledge - *Hosea 4:6*

Satan works in the ‘dark’ and creates confusion. The Word brings light and where there is no word in a situation you find darkness. Lies are a form of darkness and God’s integrity, intentions and way of doing things come under question in temptation. The temptations of Jesus in the wilderness illustrate Satan’s misuse of scripture. Lies can only be exposed with truth! You have to know the word to confront lying temptations.

Satan is pushy. He will use excess to pressure us into making decisions. He works in the realm of immediate circumstance. Circumstance is important in the short-term, but things always change in the long-term. In God there is always purpose. Satan always plays on our need for immediate relief. It is through faith and patience that God’s promises come true, not by haste!

Thirdly Satan takes advantage of man’s thirst for the supernatural and spectacular. Just because something appears supernatural, it is not automatically from the right source. Satan is the master counterfeiter and everything must be tested. God actually wants us to be cautious and check things out - 1 Thess 5:21

Know that Satan operates in the thought realm. This is the battleground of truth - 2 Cor 10:3-6

With God there are no arguments. Nothing goes above His word, and His leading will always point to Christ and His mission. Satan will have us reason our way out of doing God’s precise will, and will be strangely silent about Jesus. He does not like pointing to Jesus except in derision and mockery.

He is a subtle adversary, and will not make his lies obvious. He stimulates arguments in our thinking by planting contrary thoughts in our minds. Know that if an argument is going on in your head, God is not the author of the confusion. God’s wisdom ministers peace and is ‘willing to yield’ to the non-essential - James 3:17-18

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