

Following Good Directions

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as
STEP 1

**Lesson 2****Focus:**

Be aware of the Holy Spirit's direction.

Lesson 2**Bible Basis:**

Acts 13:1-4,
16:6-10; Galatians
5:16-17, 22-25

Lesson 2**Memory Verse:**

Since we live by the Spirit, let us
keep in step with the Spirit. —
Galatians 5:25

Students will investigate a world leader and discuss the kind of leader they would want to follow as they explore being led by the Holy Spirit.

Materials:

- Internet access
- Whiteboard and markers

As class begins, invite teens to answer this question: “What makes a good leader?” Write down all answers on a whiteboard. If your class is meeting online, you can type the answers in a document and share it to your screen.

Then, have them decide together which qualities are the most important. Have them call out their answers. Underline their top 3-5 answers.

Around the world, there are many different kinds of leaders. Some have the traits you listed, others do not. Let's watch a video that tells us a little bit about the dictators of North Korea, the Kim Dynasty. As you watch the video, pay close attention to what characteristics you think the current leader, Kim Jong Un, might have.

Share the following video with your students [3:20; stop at 2:43]:

North Korea's Kim Dynasty Explained

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jNmEdrc-Mok>

- **Based on that video, would you say that Kim Jong Un demonstrates the traits we decided were most important in a good leader? Why or why not? (Answers will vary.)**
- **Would you be happy to follow his leadership? What makes you say that? (No, his people are suffering while he lives extravagantly.)**

A quick internet search will tell you that Kim Jong Un is an oppressive leader. Today we are going to talk about a different kind of leader, whose direction is always for the best, even when we can't see it. Let's check out how Paul followed this amazing leader's direction.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Following Good Directions

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STEP 4 

Lesson 2**Focus:**

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16:6-10; Galatians
5:16-17, 22-25

Lesson 2**Memory Verse:**

Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. — Galatians 5:25

Materials:

- Pen/pencils (1 per student)
- Index cards (1 per student)

If your class is meeting online, invite your students to bring an index card or piece of paper, along with a pen or pencil, with them to class.

We've talked about how important it is to listen to the Holy Spirit and follow His direction, but how can we hear His guidance in our day-to-day lives? One way is to make sure we are spending time praying and reading God's Word just like the Christians we read about in our Bible passage today in Acts. Just reading, though, isn't the same as really listening.

Today we're going to practice one way to read the Bible that can help us listen for the direction of the Holy Spirit. Ask your students to open their Bibles or open a Bible app on their smartphones to Galatians 5. Instruct them to follow along silently as you read 5:16-25. **We'll read this passage through three times. The first time, just listen. The second time, pay attention to one word or phrase that sticks out to you. During the third reading, think about what the Holy Spirit might be telling you in this passage.**

Hand out one index card to each student and a pen/pencil. If your class is meeting online, invite students to have their papers and pens or pencils ready. Have students take notes/journal their thoughts if they would like.

Before you begin the first reading, let your teens sit in silence for a little while, so they can focus on God. Remind your students what they are to be doing during each reading (first reading, just listen; second reading, listen for a phrase or word that impresses them in some way; third reading, think about what the Holy Spirit might be telling them with that passage).

As you begin the first reading, let them follow along in their own Bibles/Bible apps or they might like to sit and listen with eyes closed. Before the second reading, remind them to listen for a particular word or phrase that sticks out to them and tell them to write it down if they'd like. Before the third reading, remind them again to consider what God might be communicating in this passage. End with a few more seconds of silence so the students can finish formulating and journaling their thoughts.

- **What did you experience during this exercise?** (Accept all reasonable answers.)
- **What word or phrase did you write down in the second reading?** (Answers will vary. Make sure no one feels pressure to share, as this could be quite personal.)
- **Does anyone want to share what you feel God is telling you with this passage?** (Again, this could be quite personal. If students would rather keep this answer private, allow that.)

Depending on what is going on in our lives, our perspectives might change when we meditate on a particular Scripture. When we prayerfully read God's Word, we can better hear what God is telling us, what He wants for us. Challenge your teens to try it this week. Ask them to choose a passage, read it three times, and ask themselves the same questions between each reading. Make sure they know to take time to listen to the Holy Spirit's direction before and after each reading. Some good passages to suggest are:

- Deuteronomy 30:15-20
- Isaiah 55:1-6
- Psalm 63:1-8
- Colossians 3:12-17

End the class by praying together, asking for help in hearing the Holy Spirit's direction in all we do.

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