

How to Solve Problems 8 of 8

Channels of Guidance

#0346

Study Given by W. D. Frazee—1960

“It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto Me” John 6:45.

Now there are many promises in the Bible that God will direct His people, that He'll *teach* His children, such as this promise that I have just read. There are many places where we're told that God will help us to know what to do. The question is, what are the channels through which God guides His people? May I suggest, friends, that there is no generation in all the history of the world where it was so important to master this science of finding out the will of God as this one in which we live.

“In all who are under the training of God is to be revealed a life that is not in harmony with the world, its customs or its practices; and” *The Desire of Ages*, page 363.

Watch:

“Everyone needs to have a personal experience in obtaining a knowledge of the will of God. We must individually hear Him speaking to the heart” *Ibid*.

Oh friends, do you know what that means? Do you know how to find out what God wants you to do?

Now, last night we heard some stirring and thrilling things about the progress that the Devil is making in this world to get all the minds of human beings in one mode.

“These have one mind” Revelation 17:13.

That will soon be fulfilled, and all the world will have the mark of what? The beast. Think of it, friends. Do you know where that mark's going to be? Oh, the very minds of men are going to be permeated with demonism, *thinking* the way the Devil thinks on every subject. And on the other hand, God is going to have a remnant, praise His name, that think just the way God thinks on every subject. Isn't *that* wonderful? That's marvelous. And you and I are candidates for that experience. We can have it.

One of the most important parts of this whole thing—in fact, it's vital, without it all the rest fails—we *must* have a personal experience in obtaining a knowledge of the will of God. It is the privilege of every soul to *know* what God wants him to do.

That's the way to be happy. That's the way to be successful. That's the way to get things done—to know what God wants you to do.

Oh, how many people there are that say, "I wish I knew for sure." Well, you can. God is not teasing us. He's not playing with us. He isn't mocking us.

"It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God" John 6:45.

"Everyone needs to have a personal experience in obtaining a knowledge of the will of God" *The Desire of Ages*, page 363.

Can you know for *sure* where God wants you to be? Yes. Can you know for *sure* what your life work should be? Yes. Can you know for *sure* who your life companion should be? Yes. Can you know for *sure* all these different things? Yes. It's your privilege. And don't settle for any less, my friends.

Oh, what a shame to be running ahead in education, in companionship for life, in careers, without knowing what God wants you to do. It's like that man back there in the days of David, you remember, that wanted to run with tidings.

What did the commander tell him? "No, you don't run today."

"Oh, but," he said, "I want to run."

The commander turned to another man and said to him, "You go and tell the king what you have seen."

And then this first man, when he saw the second man sent, he couldn't rest. He said, "Oh, let me run."

"All right," he said. "Run."

And away he ran. But when he got there, you remember, he wasn't able to accomplish anything as far as giving the king any real information. And the king had to say to him, "You just stand aside."

Oh friends, so much movement today, but so little accomplished, so much activity, but such paltry results. What do we need?

"Everyone needs to have a personal experience in obtaining a knowledge of the will of God" *Ibid*.

Do you remember that wonderful statement from Volume 6? Some of you heard me read it not long ago. Perhaps I ought to refresh our minds with it here because it's tremendous:

"It is the very essence of all right faith to do the right thing at the right time" *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 6*, page 24.

And then it goes on and says that if we'll do that our efforts:

“Will produce a hundred fold greater results than can be accomplished with the same means and facilities in another channel where God is not so manifestly working” *Ibid.*

Now let me turn that the other way around. Suppose without knowing for sure what God wants me to do, I merely go out here and I do something, something good, but not the vital thing for which I was born and for which God has planned. How much will I get done? Just one percent of what I could get done, one one-hundredth part, my friends. Think of it! Whereas, if I'll take the time and learn how to get a knowledge of the will of God and do the right thing at the right and the very thing God has planned for me to do, I'll get a *hundred* times more accomplished.

Say, friends, it's worthwhile filling up the glass before we run to the patient with the glass. Don't you think so? Yes. What's the use of running all over the hospital with trays of water, but nothing in the glass? Just glasses, you understand. Oh, let's fill up before we run. What do you say? Let's *know* what God wants us to do, and have a message and a commission from Heaven.

Now, tonight, I want to study with you the *channels* through which God reveals to us His will; how it is that God teaches His people. Of course, we've got to come to Him in prayer, we've got to ask Him and all that, but when God answers, *how* will God answer? *Volume 5*, page 512; this is one of the great references on guidance:

“There are three ways in which the Lord reveals His will to us, to guide us, and to fit us to guide others”
Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5, page 512.

Now that statement introduces three ways and by inference a fourth way. And I shall speak of these four channels of guidance tonight.

“There are three ways in which the Lord reveals His will to us, to guide us, and to fit us to guide others. How may we know His voice from that of a stranger? How shall we distinguish it from the voice of a false shepherd? God reveals His will to us in His Word, the Holy Scriptures” *Ibid.*

I'm going to give you a text on each of these four channels. And the text on this one is John 8:31–32:

“Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on Him, If ye continue in My word, then are ye My disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth” John 8:31–32.

How shall we know the truth? Continue in His Word. If we continue in His Word, what will happen? We'll *know* the truth. Notice Jesus doesn't say you'll *guess* it, or *think* it, or *hope* it, but you'll what? *Know* it, if you do what? Continue in the

Word. Then if we don't know it, perhaps we need to go deeper into what? The *Word*. We should be earnest students of the Word. That's the first great channel in guidance. And on some subjects, friends, that's all that's necessary.

For instance, when I read over here in the law of God, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," "The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord Thy God," do I need any other channel of guidance beside that? That's it. That settles it, doesn't it?

There are many other things that God has spoken to us on through His law, through His Word, through the Spirit of Prophecy, the divine commentary on the Scriptures. And whenever God speaks to the converted heart, that settles it, doesn't it? That's all we need.

"God's word has given us rules for our guidance"
Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5, page 548.

God's Word has given us what? Rules, for our what? Guidance.

"These rules form the standard from which we cannot swerve if we would keep the way of the Lord. God's will must be paramount" *Ibid.*

Now watch!

"The question for us to ask is not: What have others done? What will my relatives think? or, What will they say of me if I pursue this course? but, What has God said? Neither parent nor child can truly prosper in any course excepting the way of the Lord" *Ibid.*

Now, we could spend an hour on that channel of guidance, but that's enough, friend. The first great channel of guidance is what? The Word of God, with the divine commentary of the Spirit of Prophecy.

Now, the second great channel of guidance is the providences of God. Psalm 107:43:

"Whoso is wise, and will observe these things, even they shall understand the lovingkindness of the LORD" Psalm 107:43.

If we are wise, we will do what? Observe. This is talking about the providences of God. You'll get that by reading back up to Psalm. And you'll find it clearly stated in *Steps to Christ*. Listen:

"God speaks to us through His providential workings"
Steps to Christ, page 87.

He speaks to us through what? Providential workings.

“And through the influence of His Spirit upon the heart. In our circumstances and surroundings, in the changes daily taking place around us, we may find precious lessons, if our hearts are but open to discern them. The psalmist, tracing the work of God’s providence, says, ‘The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.’ ‘Whoso is wise, and will observe these things, even they shall understand the loving-kindness of the Lord’” *Ibid.*

There you have it, friends. Why, what are these circumstances that are all around us all the while, these changing things? They are the providential workings through which God is *speaking* to us. “I heard the Voice of Jesus Say.” Did you hear Him in the rain, in the thunder? Do you recognize Him in the sunshine? Do you know what the sunshine says? Well, it may say to you, it’s time to go out and hoe now, the rain is over. In the circumstances of daily life, we’re to read the providence of God calling us to work or rest, to study or labor, to do this or that. We’re to be watching those signals.

Ah, somebody says, “That’s the trouble. I don’t know what to do. I get my plans all laid, and then something happens that throws it all to pieces. I don’t know.”

Did you understand Brother Glanzer when he was singing from the recording a little while ago? Probably you did, friends, because he was singing in what? In English and you understand that. Well, if there had been a Chinese brother here tonight, he would have said, “The music sounds nice, but I couldn’t understand a word he said.”

But could he learn? Yes, he could learn. Can you and I learn to read the message of God’s providence? And if all we can learn is one word at a time, let’s learn one word at a time. What do you say, friends? And let’s not—Oh, watch this point!—because we can’t learn it all overnight, throw it down and say, “Well, there’s no use, I could never learn it anyway.”

A number of years ago, we had some Spanish students here come up from South America to take our medical missionary training. And along with learning some things about nursing and other health subjects, they had to learn English. And since I knew a little Spanish, I was trying to help them what I could, along with others. And one day they were telling me what a difficult language English is. Well, it is as a matter of fact. I agreed with them. And I told them that the first time I heard it, I never understood a word of it. And they caught on then. [Audience laughter]

Now, the providence of God is like that, friends. There are millions of people in this world who don’t understand a word of it, of the message that God is giving—the *language* of God’s providences. But I bring you that to help you to realize that this is something that can be learned just like we learn a language. The *Bible* is to help us to interpret the providences of God. *Prayer* is to help us interpret the providence of God.

We're told that we need to examine our lives like a printer examines a proof sheet, see the mistakes. We're to examine our lives day by day, look it over. Think, "What did this mean? Why did this happen? What's the purpose of this?" And don't depend on some foolish or mysterious explanation. Try to think sanely. Use good judgment. What is the purpose of this? What is it God is trying to teach me? And then compare your conclusions with the Word. The providences of God are a wonderful channel of guidance.

"Whoso is wise, and will observe these things, even they shall understand" Psalm 107:43.

So we want to do that. *Volume 4*, page 221:

"Learn to follow the opening providences of God"
Testimonies for the Church, Volume 4, page 221.

Isn't that nice?

"Learn to follow the opening providences of God" *Ibid.*

Now, some people have a strange idea of how to use providences. They depend on signs. And they read in the Bible about Gideon putting that fleece out, you remember? But the more I study the plans of God, the more I see that Gideon's experience is not put in there so you and I will start putting out fleeces. No, no. It shows to what length God went to help that poor man get some courage to go ahead and do what needed to be done.

That is not God's regular way of guiding people at all, to put fleeces out. No, God wants us to use our judgment, and He wants us to learn to read His providences without having to have a lot of strange and unusual, miraculous signs.

In this wonderful book, *Selected Messages*, Book 2, pages 325–328, you'll find an interesting story of a man by the name of Brother Harris. Back about the time that I was born, this Brother Harris was out in California. He was a businessman and he was making, apparently, some big deals. And he had apparently a great interest in the work, and he wanted to put lots of money into the work. In fact, he was putting a large percentage of what he made into the work.

And since he had taken on God as a Partner in this way, he wanted God to guide him, and so he hit upon this very simple expedient. He would toss up a coin, first having had prayer, and if it came down heads, that meant one thing, and if it came down tails, it meant something else. Thus he depended on God to guide him in the investing of money and various things.

Sometimes instead of using a coin, he took a card, a little card. He would write "yes" on one side and "no" on the other side, and he'd flip that up in the air. Whichever way the card landed, if it said, "yes," go ahead. If it said "no," he wouldn't do it.

And so this man and his wife came up to see Sister White at Elmshaven, St. Helena. His wife was burdened about it, apparently. She was concerned. She wasn't sure that was the way the Lord guided people. Now, you can read the story here in these few pages. It's very interesting. But this is what the servant of the Lord was inspired to answer:

"You try to reach correct decisions regarding religious duties, and to make decisions regarding business enterprises, by the tossing up of a coin, and letting the position in which it falls decide what course you shall pursue. I am instructed to say that we are not to give encouragement to any such methods... They are not of the Lord" *Selected Messages*, Book 2, page 325.

And on page 326, she says that this kind of thing pleases the Devil:

"For he works to control the coin, and through its agency works out his plans... Let none belittle their experience by resorting to cheap devices for direction in important matters connected with the work of God" *Ibid.*, page 326.

Now friends, if the only person that ever did this was Brother Harris, I wouldn't read this. And if the only way this method was ever used was tossing up a coin or flipping up a card, I don't think I'd take the time to read it. There are a thousand variations on this. People get into a hard place. They want to know what to do. And like Saul, they are fidgety. They have got to get an answer. And so they say, "Let's make a sign with the Lord. Let's say, Lord, if such a thing happens by a certain day, then we'll know that we're to do a certain thing. And if it doesn't, then we know we're not."

And so they get out of their difficulty. Or do they? In other words, they force God to give them an answer. Or do they? That's the question. Now, sometimes, my dear friends, God in mercy does just like He did with Gideon. Sometimes He does, but that doesn't prove it's His best plan or His ideal plan. Not at all. And when I study with you the providences of God as the channels of guidance, I am not talking primarily about Gideon's fleece, and I am certainly not talking about tossing up coins or anything like that.

"Well," somebody says, "but back in the Bible days, didn't they cast lots?"

Yes, they did. They had Urim and Thummim too. They had those stones on the high priest's breast. Do you know anyplace today to get Urim and Thummim guidance today? I don't. And what about casting lots? You can read a direct answer to that on page 328 in *Selected Messages*. The Spirit of Prophecy says:

"I have no faith in casting lots" *Selected Messages*, Book 2, page 328.

This is written to some people who were choosing the church officers by casting lots.

“To cast lots for the officers of the church is not in God’s order. Let men of responsibility be called upon to select the officers of the church” *Ibid*.

Somebody will say, “Well, aren’t there occasions where they did it in Bible times?”

Yes, there are a number of things they did in Bible times that aren’t God’s plan for His people today, aren’t there? Yes. I could mention a number of them. I’ll not go into all the reasons for this. There’s the plain statement, friend. And I don’t propose to waste my time with methods that Inspiration discourages. What do you say?

The providences of God; what are they? They are just what I read here in *Steps to Christ*. They are these circumstances and changing conditions, doors opening on the one hand, closing on the other, these events of life and we’re to learn to read them. We’re to learn to read them and to have our minds alert so that we can catch the signals of providence. We shall need it in the thrilling scenes of the Latter Rain and the Loud Cry that we are just on the threshold of. We need to become experts in reading the providences of God.

The third channel of guidance is the impression of God’s Spirit. What’s the first channel? The Word. Whose Word? God’s Word. The second channel of guidance is what? The providences. Whose providences? God’s providences. And the third channel of guidance is the impressions of the Spirit? Whose Spirit? God’s Spirit. The text is Isaiah 30:21. Oh, I love this promise:

“And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying,
This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right
hand, and when ye turn to the left” Isaiah 30:21.

Your ears will hear what? A word, a word of guidance, because it will say what? “This is the way, walk in it.” Why, there is a most wonderful promise of guidance. And it’s talking about the voice of God speaking to your soul, my friend.

Oh, listen how *Desire of Ages* puts it:

“Everyone needs to have a personal experience in obtaining a knowledge of the will of God. We must individually hear Him speaking to the heart. When every other voice is hushed” *The Desire of Ages*, page 363.

When? When every other voice is hushed. Turn off the radio, the television. Get away from the babbling of human voices, alone with God.

“When every other voice is hushed, and in quietness we wait before Him, the silence of the soul makes more distinct the voice of God. He bids us, ‘Be still and know that I am God’” *Ibid*.

Ah friends, this matter of having God impress us by His Spirit is a most sweet and beautiful thing. If you've had the experience, you know what I'm talking about. If you haven't, you don't. It's just something that you've read about or heard other people talk about. But my brother, it's for you. My sister, it's for you. You can have it, but you must pay a price.

Listen, *Volume 5*, hear what Inspiration says about how to have this experience:

"The Lord speaks; enter into your closet, and in silence commune with your own heart; listen to the voice of truth and conscience. Nothing will give such clear views of self as secret prayer. He who seeth in secret and knoweth all things will enlighten your understanding and answer your petitions. Plain, simple duties that must not be neglected will open before you" *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5*, page 163.

That's it. That's a promise, and it'll happen. When I'm praying, friends, I like to have my notebook by me or a piece of paper. Do you know why? Because God will impress me with things that need to be done. They may be things I promised to do and have forgotten. Write them down. They may be things I haven't thought of before.

I shall never forget the morning that I was praying and God impressed me to go with another worker and sing for a sick man. Within a week that man was dead. This brother and I sang at his funeral. But thank God, friends, we had the privilege of singing for him when he could hear us because God had impressed my heart, all alone in my room when I was praying.

Ah, dear ones, there are many errands that God would like to send us on if we'd just stop long enough to get our orders. And there are sins that we need to confess. But God needs time to get underneath the topsoil of our hearts and down into the subsoil and dig it up.

Alone with God in the secret place of prayer is the best place to get these impressions of the Spirit. But having learned to recognize His voice there, it is our privilege to claim His direction all day long in the daily affairs of life.

But now having said this, I should warn you against some counterfeits. Oh, yes.

"Beware how you follow impulse, calling it the Holy Spirit. Some are in danger in this respect" *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 8*, page 296.

Did you ever hear of a man named Canright? He was a great preacher among us, friends, but he missed his way. He got off the ship. And just before he was making a plunge, the servant of God wrote him this earnest appeal:

“If perplexed, hold still; make no move in the dark... Wait, and God will help you. Be patient... If you yield to impressions you will lose your soul, and the soul is of great value with God” *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5*, page 572.

So impressions are not always to be followed. Now, do you know why impressions not safe? Well, I'll tell you why. You will find the answer in *Volume 5*, page 647. It says it here in one sentence:

“Men have not the wisdom from God and the constant enlightenment from the Source of all power that would make it safe to follow impulses or impressions”
Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5, page 647.

Do you see, friend? But do you know something? And watch this point! Do you know that many times the people who are the least reliable will follow impulse the most blindly? They're stubborn, obstinate; there's nothing you can do with them. They will even say, “The Lord told me to do this, and the Lord told me to do that.” And you question them and say, “What do you mean, the Lord told you?” Well, they mean they were impressed. But they think that that's a mark of fellowship with God, to give God the credit for every impression they get. Well, my dear friends, God doesn't accept all that. 1 John 4:1 says:

“Believe not every spirit, but” 1 John 4:1.

What?

“Try the spirits whether they are of God” 1 John 4:1.

Volume 1, page 230:

“The Lord requires His people to use their reason, and not lay it aside for impressions” *Testimonies for the Church, Volume 1*, page 230.

Did you catch that?

“The Lord requires His people to use their reason, and not lay it aside for impressions” *Ibid.*

So impressions have their place, but they are not infallible. They are not to be the thing that settles every subject. They are important.

“But our impressions are not always a safe guide to duty”
Testimonies to Ministers, page 502.

They're not always. *Sometimes* they guide us, but not *always*.

“Well,” you say, “that’s the trouble. How do you know?”

It’s a matter of learning the language again. You’ve got to learn to study the Bible. Are there some people that study the Bible and don’t get much out of it? What do they need to do? Study it some more and pray. Are there some people that can’t read the providences? Yes. What do they need to do? Study them on their knees, plead with God and keep *trying* to read the lessons of providence. And so with this matter of impressions. Pray to God to impress you. And then when you *get* an impression, check it with the Word, check it with the providences.

And now, friends, I come to the last one of these four channels of guidance. And that is: Counsel with our brethren. You remember the wise man says in Proverbs 11:14, he gives us a message here on this matter of counsel. We will read it:

“Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety” Proverbs 11:14.

Proverbs 15:22:

“Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counselors they are established” Proverbs 15:22.

So, if you want safety in being established, get some counsel, no matter what impressions you get.

Now, *Acts of the Apostles*, page 279. Notice how this links together impressions and counsel:

“Impressions alone are not a safe guide to duty” *Acts of the Apostles*, page 279.

Will you repeat that with me?

“Impressions alone are not a safe guide to duty. The enemy often persuades men to believe that it is God who is guiding them, when in reality they are following only human impulse. But if we watch carefully, and take counsel with our brethren, we shall be given an understanding of the Lord’s will” *Acts of the Apostles*, page 279.

Isn’t that a wonderful promise, friends? Now, notice counsel with our brethren is not to be a substitute for impressions of the Spirit. It’s not to be a substitute for providence. And certainly, it’s not to be a substitute for the Word of God in the Bible, is it? No. Counseling with our brethren is to help us check our conclusions through these other three channels.

It's like in school. A student is given a problem. He figures up a column, and then he brings it up to the teacher. What for? Well, the teacher checks it. And perhaps the teacher looks it over and sees that it isn't the right answer at all. But if the teacher is a good teacher, the teacher doesn't say, "Well now, you just take my word for it, that's the wrong answer. You have 762 down there, but it's really 782. Just write 782." Is that the way you teach? Oh, no, a good teacher says, "You'd better check that again." And if necessary, the teacher lets the student add out loud until the teacher finds out *where* the student is missing the point, you see. And finally the student says, "Oh, I see. I missed that."

"All right. Well, what's the answer?"

"782."

The teacher knew it all the time, you understand. Oh, I wish we had a whole hour tonight just to spend on this matter of counsel, but I merely introduce it, friends. It's the fourth, and shall I say the *clincher*, on these channels of guidance.

You know when a carpenter is nailing two boards together and he wants them to hold, he'll drive a nail clear through the two boards, and then what? Turn it over and clinch it. And that's what counsel is for. Counsel, may I repeat, is not a substitute for studying the Bible and the *Testimonies*. It's not a substitute for learning to read God's providence. It certainly is not a substitute for prayer and seeking the impressions of the Spirit. Counsel is to help us check our impressions, check our reading of providence, check our interpretations of the Scriptures.

We're told there, you remember in Volume 5, that if we think we have some new light on the Scriptures, what are we to do? Lay our conclusions before brethren of experience and if they see no light in it, yield to their judgment, because in the multitude of counselors there is wisdom.

Now, may I say, friends, that's not talking about championing old light. Now, personally, I have no new light to communicate. And if I get some new light on the Word of God, I'm going to do just what that says, lay it before my brethren of experience. But I want to tell you something, friends. There are some things this movement has been preaching for a hundred years. And I don't have to lay those before the brethren to find out whether to present them or not. Do I? Why, those are settled.

I know that Jesus is coming soon. I know that Christ went into the Most Holy Place in 1844 to make the final atonement. I know the seventh day is the Sabbath. And there are a few more things that you and I know. Let's preach the things that are certain. What do you say? But if we get some new light, or think we do, remember, that's the area to lay it before brethren of experience because we need counsel.

But you know friends, whether in matters of doctrine or whether in matters of personal duty, it makes a difference who we counsel with. Let me read you something from *Review and Herald*. Listen:

“Do not accept the words of any man unless you can see that he is conformed to the divine image, because if you do you sustain him in doing wrong. You sustain him by asking his counsel and following his directions. What we need is the Word pure from the Holy Bible. Christ has bidden us to conform our life to His life” *Review and Herald*, June 22, 1905.

Now that’s an important principle, friends. You’ll find something similar to it in the published books:

“We are not to put confidence in the counsel of men and assent to all they shall say unless we have evidence that they are under the influence of the Spirit of God” *Basics of Christian Education*, page 530.

And on the same page it says:

“Do not allow any man to come in as an arbitrary ruler, and say, You must go here, and you must not go there; and you must do this, and you must not do that” *Ibid*.

But on the very same page it says:

“No one has sufficient wisdom to act without counsel” *Ibid*.

We need to be wise as to where we get our counsel. We need to be sure that the men we counsel with are in harmony with the Bible and the *Testimonies*, and that they have the Spirit of God in their hearts. But we need counsel. You can see that there are warnings in both directions.

Now friends, in the book *Testimonies to Ministers*, beginning on page 485, you will find what I think is the most wonderful getting together of material on both sides of this matter of counsel. I can only mention it to you tonight. But you’ll find there some wonderful statements on the value of counsel, the importance of counsel, the necessity of counsel. And you’ll also find some warnings on the importance of having an experience of your own, and not letting human counsel take the place of seeking the Lord.

Now, I go back to our introductory reference, and I read:

“There are three ways in which the Lord reveals His will to us, to guide us, and to fit us to guide others”
Testimonies for the Church, Volume 5, page 512.

To fit us to guide others, that’s that fourth point of counsel, isn’t it? So they are all four there. Now, what are the three ways to fit us to be guided ourselves and to fit us to counsel others? What are the three channels?

“God reveals His will to us in His Word... His voice is also revealed in His providential workings...

“Another way in which God’s voice is heard is through the appeals of His Holy Spirit, making impressions upon the heart” *Ibid.*

There the three are named and numbered right there in *Volume 5*.

Now I leave them with you, friends. Take them into the laboratory of your life. Day by day, get the joy of consulting all four of these channels of guidance. Learn the joy of getting them focused on a given providence, and of seeing how they agree, how they agree.

You know, when a surveyor, an engineer wants to know *exactly* where a certain point is, he draws more than one line to it or through it, doesn’t he? Yes sir. I remember when I was hiking up here in the great Smokies, the national park there. I came up to a lookout station way up there in the woods, miles from any highway. And sure enough, there was a man up there in the lookout tower. What was he watching for? He was watching for fires and he showed me how they did it. If yonder was smoke out there, they would take a reading on that. They’d look and get a site on it. And they had a map all out there before them, and they would get that line right on that map.

But that wasn’t enough, friends. No. They’d call up to another station and tell another station, I see a fire and as far as I can see it’s about in such and such a place. Where do you find it?” And that man, maybe a mile, maybe five miles, maybe ten miles away, *he* runs a site on that. And where they cross, my friends, *that’s* where the fire is. That’s where the fire is. Right there. They know exactly where it is.

And what we need to do in this matter of guidance and obtaining a knowledge of the will of God is to know how to get together the readings from these various channels, my friends—God’s Word, His providence, His Spirit, and the counsel of our brethren. Oh, may we have a happy time as students in God’s school of learning to know God’s will.

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