

“GOD WANTS TO TALK TO YOU” – pt 4

How to Test an Impression

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“What you think is the right road may lead to death.” Pr. 14:12 (GN)

“Don’t believe everything you hear just because someone says it is a message from God; Test it first to see if it really is!” 1 John 4:1 (LB)

Jesus: “Anyone who wants to do God’s will can test this teaching and know whether it’s from God or whether I’m making it up.” John 7:17 (Msg)

7 WAYS TO TEST AN IMPRESSION

1. DOES IT AGREE with the Bible ?

“Heaven and earth will pass away but My words will never pass away.” Luke 21:33 (NIV)

“Truth stands the test of time.” Proverbs 12:19 (NLT)

2. DOES IT MAKE ME more like Christ ?

“In your lives you must think and act like Christ Jesus.” Ph. 2:5 (NCV)

“If you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition... such ‘wisdom’ is of the devil. The wisdom that comes from God is pure, peace loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy, impartial and sincere.” James 3:14-17 (NIV)

3. DOES MY church family CONFIRM IT?

“God’s intent is that through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known.” Ephesians 3:10 (NIV)

“The wisdom of the righteous can save you.” Proverbs 11:9 (GN)

“In the multitude of counselors there is safety.” Proverbs 11:14b (KJV)

4. IS IT CONSISTENT WITH how God shaped me ?

“We are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

“God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well...” Romans 12:6 (LB)

5. DOES IT CONCERN my responsibility ?

Jesus: “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow Me.” John 21:22 (NIV)

“We will all be judged one day, not by each other’s standards, or even our own, but by the judgment of God... It is to God alone that we shall have to answer for our actions.” Romans 14:10, 13 (Ph)

6. IS IT convicting RATHER THAN CONDEMNING ?

CONVICTION (God) VS. CONDEMNATION (Satan)

Exposes what’s wrong

Attacks your value

“This needs to change”

“You’re worthless.”

“There is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.” Romans 8:1 (NLT)

“Satan is the accuser of believers.” Revelation 12:10 (NIV)

7. DO I SENSE God’s peace ABOUT IT?

1 Corinthians 14:33 “God’s not the author of confusion.”

Philippians 4:6-7 “Don’t worry about anything. Instead pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank Him for all that He’s done. If you do this you will experience God’s peace which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and your minds as you live in Christ Jesus.”