

Five Filters to Keep You from being a Spiritual Dipstick

Proverbs 3:5-6 “Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.”

I was reading the book *The Power of a Whisper: Hearing God. Having the Guts to Respond*, by Bill Hybels. It encouraged me on how to tune the ears of my heart to God’s speaking in my life, and just how valuable it is to listen to God. In this book there were heaps of stories of people who listened to God’s whisper in their life, but the stories that really shook me to the core were the ones where people chose NOT to listen to God’s whisper.

On the other side of this, a person cries out, “Well how in the world do I know for sure that it is God whispering to me?” We all have heard stories of spiritual dipsticks that have murdered, destroyed, and been downright toxic all in the name of thinking that they were hearing from God.

So Bill makes these five points, excuse me “filters”, that I want to pass on to you:

Filter #1: Simply ask God, “Is this message truly from you?” Be willing to take the necessary time to be willing to find out if the message is truly from God.

Filter #2: Is it Scriptural? Some have said, “God told me to cheat on my wife.” That simply cannot be because it is not scriptural. Read Galatians 5:16-26.

Filter #3: Is it Wise? Jesus coached his own disciples many times to be wise at all times (Matthew 10:16).

Filter #4: Is it in Tune with Your Own Character? Basically has God divinely hard-wired you for this?

Filter #5: What Do the People You Most Trust Think about It? Proverbs 11:14 says, “For lack of guidance a nation falls, but many advisers make victory sure.”