

What Is Discernment?

 **Definition:** Discernment is the spiritual ability to recognize, distinguish, and respond to God's truth versus deception, good versus evil, and wisdom versus foolishness. It is a gift of the Holy Spirit and a developed skill that grows through spiritual maturity, scriptural knowledge, and life experience with God.

Biblical Meaning:

The Greek word often translated as discernment is “diakrisis” which means:

- To distinguish or judge rightly
- To examine or evaluate spiritually
- To detect what is true from what is false or misleading

Discernment Is...

- A Gift: Given by the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:10)
- A Skill: Grown through constant use (Hebrews 5:14)
- A Shield: Protects us from deception and false teaching (1 John 4:1)
- A Light: Helps us walk in God's will and truth (Romans 12:2, Psalm 119:105)
- A Compass: Guides daily decisions and attitudes (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Why It Matters:

We live in a world full of half-truths, distractions, and spiritual counterfeits. Without discernment:

- We may follow teachings or leaders that are not aligned with God's truth.
- We risk making choices based on emotions or worldly thinking.
- We may confuse good intentions with godly instructions.

With discernment:

- We make wiser, God-centered decisions.
- We identify lies, temptations, and spiritual traps.
- We live more aligned with God's heart, voice, and purpose.

✨ Discernment Is Not:

- Being judgmental or hyper-critical
- Relying only on emotions, feelings, or logic
- A talent only “special Christians” have—it’s for all who seek God’s truth

🙏 Prayer for Discernment:

“Lord, open my eyes to Your truth. Train my spirit to recognize Your voice, Your will, and Your way. Help me to test everything by Your Word and walk in wisdom every day. Amen.”
