

# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



## A Mind of Our Own vs The Mind of Christ

***“For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?”  
But we have the mind of Christ. (1 Corinthians 2:16)***

The Bible presented this profound rhetorical question: ***Who has understood the mind of the Lord?*** (1 Corinthians 2:16). This question underscores the truth that no one can fully comprehend the mind of God. His thoughts are higher than ours, and His ways are beyond human understanding (Isaiah 55:8-9). However, the Apostle Paul also introduced a remarkable reality: ***“But we have the mind of Christ.”***

At first glance, the two sentences appear contradictory. How can humanity, incapable of fully grasping God’s mind, possess the mind of Christ? To understand this, we must delve into the preceding verses in 1 Corinthians 2, where Paul explains this mystery.

In 1 Corinthians 2:10, Paul reveals the key:  
***“These things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.”***

The Holy Spirit serves as the bridge between God’s infinite wisdom and human understanding. While no one can independently comprehend God’s mind, He chooses to reveal spiritual truths to His people through the Spirit. The Holy Spirit searches the depths of God and imparts divine wisdom to believers, making the previously incomprehensible understandable.

This is why Paul states in 1 Corinthians 2:14:  
***“The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.”***

The natural (unspiritual) person is guided by human desires and reasoning. Spiritual truths are beyond intellectual comprehension and cannot be grasped through worldly wisdom. Instead, they must be discerned through the Spirit. Spiritual discernment is the ability to perceive and understand spiritual truths, enabling believers to make decisions that align with God's will. Unlike natural discernment which relies on intellect, spiritual discernment is rooted in prayer, Scripture, and faith, guided by the Holy Spirit.

Through spiritual discernment, believers are empowered to see situations from God's perspective and respond accordingly. For instance, there are moments when the Spirit prompts believers to act beyond their natural understanding. A personal example of this is when the Spirit led me to re-approach someone who had previously rejected Christ. Despite their initial resistance, the Spirit revealed that the timing was right at that time. When I obeyed, the outcome affirmed the Spirit's guidance.

A life led by the Spirit will produce the fruit of the Spirit: **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control** (Galatians 5:22-23). These fruits testify that a person is under the Spirit's guidance. Living with the mind of Christ requires a personal relationship with Jesus and dependence on the Holy Spirit. As believers grow closer to Christ, their thoughts, attitudes, and actions increasingly reflect His character, allowing them to bear fruit that glorifies God.

Paul's statement about believers possessing the mind of Christ is not a contradiction but a profound truth made possible through the Holy Spirit. While humanity cannot independently comprehend God's mind, the Spirit reveals divine truths and enables believers to think and live in alignment with God's will.

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