



Recap

- Skip 7.53-8.11- true story, but misplaced
- Last day of Festival of Tabernacles
- Whoever believes in me rivers of living water will flow from within them.
- Pharisees firm in their rejection of Jesus
- John's focus- Jesus' identity

Three Stages in Hearing God (Acts 21.10-12)

1. **Revelation-** What did God say?

- After we had been there a number of days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. Coming over to us, he took Paul's belt, tied his own hands and feet with it

2. **Interpretation-** What does that revelation mean?

- and said, "The Holy Spirit says, 'In this way the Jews of Jerusalem will bind the owner of this belt and will hand him over to the Gentiles.'"

3. **Application-** What am I supposed to do about that? Based on that interpretation, what does a faithful response look like?

- When we heard this, we and the people there pleaded with Paul not to go up to Jerusalem.

Primary means through which God leads us



Bible

- Universal truth - reveals who God is/what He is doing in the world and how we are to relate to God/others; plumb line – everything is measured by it's conformity to the Word



Holy Spirit

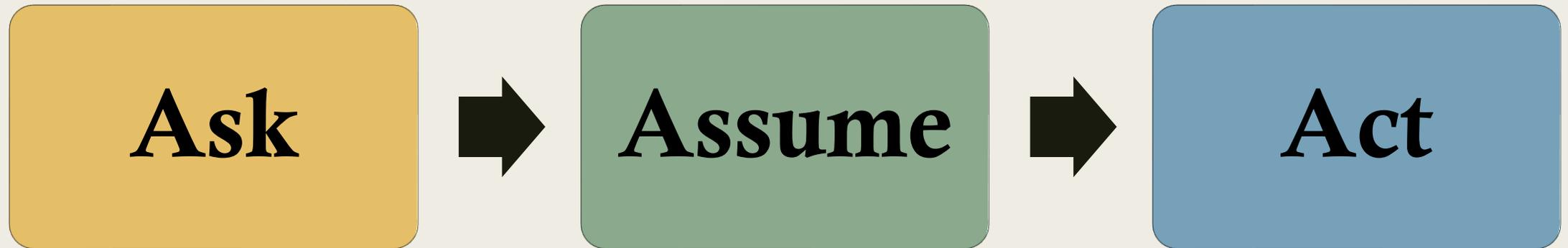
- 'Personal truth' - leads us in the decisions that are unique to us – where to live/work, if/who to marry, etc.; compass – guides us into all truth



Church

- People who love God and love you – Spirit often speaks through these people; provide wisdom – knowing what to do in a particular situation

Our Posture when Making Decisions



When God is 'silent'

- **Continue to obey last clear word**
- **Discern any hindrance to hearing-** unbelief, disobedience, inattentiveness
- **Continue to seek guidance-** Word, Spirit, and Church
- **Recognize at times God say, 'you pick'** – gives us desires of our hearts; looking for mature children

