



## LISTENING TO THE LORD'S LEAD HOW A COACH HELPS YOU DISCERN GOD'S GUIDANCE

Gardening along Colorado's Front Range is tricky. It's high desert, and the clay soil seems to resist what little water arrives on the scene. When we lived there, I pleaded with the earth to produce a small crop. Here in Wisconsin, our new home, I'm amazed to watch volunteer tomato plants spring up and grow with very little assistance from us. I water them only a little, and only on the hottest days — yet we have oodles of tomatoes for ourselves and enough to share with neighbors. Water in the soil makes such a huge difference.

What would it look like for us to become gardens "whose waters do not fail"? There are some clues in Isaiah 58. This chapter of God's Word speaks of sharing bread with the hungry, clothing the naked and bringing justice to the oppressed. There are directions about humility and quarreling and keeping the Sabbath day. As we seek vision for how to do these things well, we can also consider verse 11: The Lord will guide us always. And that's a great comfort.

But following a guide takes effort. You have to keep your eyes focused on your guide's steps, listen for course corrections, and be ready to take the guide's hand when offered. With work, children's activities and other responsibilities clamoring for our attention, it is far too easy to take our eyes off our Guide. When

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I want to see clearly where He is leading, it helps to have a godly partner listening on my behalf. A good coach listens to me and to where I feel God is leading my heart, and listens to the Lord for my sake. He or she helps me find clarity about God's guidance, giving "strength to my bones." I can see more clearly where God is leading and how to go forward. Even in

the "scorched places," my soul is satisfied.

What could you discover about where God is leading you? Your dedicated thinking partner, your Advocate Coach, would be delighted to walk with you down that road. There is beautiful fruit already growing in your garden. Taste and see!



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Advocate Coach

HAVE YOU TRIED A COACHING CONVERSATION YET? CURIOUS ABOUT HOW PARTNERING WITH A COACH CAN HELP STEER YOUR PERSONAL MINISTRY IN THE DIRECTION THE LORD IS GUIDING YOU? CONTACT IAN DURIAS AT [IDURIAS@COMPASSION.COM](mailto:IDURIAS@COMPASSION.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION.