



Day 1: Who is Leading the Way?

The Rundown:

We all think we're the captains of our own ship, but the truth is, everyone is being led by something. In Matthew 2, the Wise Men weren't just wandering around hoping to bump into a King; they were following a specific sign—a star that rose and went before them. Contrast that with my family's recent hiking trip. We let a kindergartner lead the way, and guess what? We hit a dead end. No map, no app, just vibes. And that's how many of us live our spiritual lives. We follow our "heart" (which Jeremiah tells us is deceitful) or we follow the crowd, and we wonder why we end up lost. True worship begins when we stop guessing and start following the only Guide who knows the terrain.

The Challenge:

Be honest: if you looked at the "trail" of your life over the last six months, does it look like a purposeful march toward Jesus, or a wandering path led by whatever felt good in the moment? Are you following the Star, or are you flipping a coin at every stop sign?

Action Step:

Take 5 minutes this morning to open your map (the Bible). Read Psalm 23:1-3. explicitly ask God to be the "Leader" of your schedule today. Before you make your first big decision of the day, stop and ask, "Lord, which way are You going?"



Day 2: Friend or King?

The Rundown:

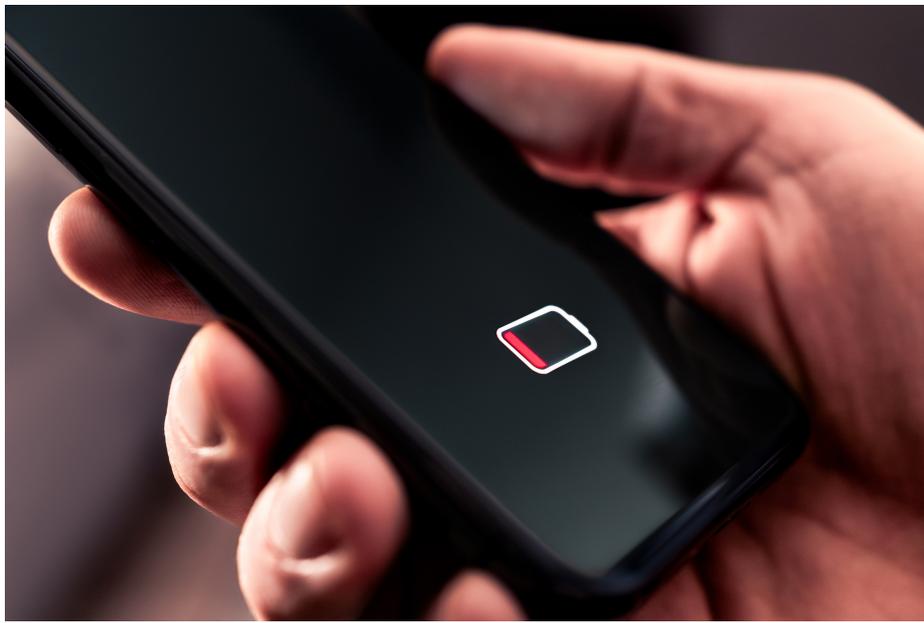
We live in a culture that loves to market Jesus as our "homeboy." We want the benefits of a Savior without the reverence due to a King. But look at Isaiah. When he saw the Lord in Isaiah 6, he didn't give Him a high-five; he said, "Woe is me!" He fell on his face. The Magi—men who commanded respect and appointed kings—fell down and worshipped a toddler. Why? Because they understood who He was. The fear of the Lord isn't about being scared of Jesus; it's about having a deep, trembling adoration for His power. If your Jesus is small enough to fit in your pocket, He's too small to save you.

The Challenge:

Does your prayer life reflect a chat with a buddy or an audience with a King? We need to get back to a place where we are comfortable being uncomfortable in His presence.

Action Step:

Change your physical posture when you pray today. Don't just pray in the car or on the couch. Literally get on your knees or bow your head low for at least two minutes. Let your body teach your heart what reverence feels like.



Day 3: The Battery Check

The Rundown:

We love to say, "I put God first," but data doesn't lie. If you want to know what you truly worship, look at your "battery usage." If a kid spends 19 hours a day playing video games, they are worshipping that game. If we spend 4 hours a day on social media and 4 minutes in the Word, we are worshipping our phones. Worship is simply what we give our time, attention, and resources to. You can't claim to be following Jesus if you're staring at a screen for 90% of your waking life. As John Calvin said, the human heart is an "idol factory," and usually, that idol is glowing right in the palm of our hand.

The Challenge:

We are going to do a "Time Budget." Stop making excuses about being "too busy" for God. You likely aren't too busy; you are just distracted.

Action Step:

Open your phone settings right now and look at your screen time for the last 7 days. Write that number down. Now, commit to taking just 15 minutes of that time today to read Matthew 2 or listen to worship music instead of scrolling.



Day 4: Scary Dreams & Big Faith

The Rundown:

If your dreams for your life don't scare you, they aren't big enough for God. We often mistake "faith" for "safety," but Scripture shows us the opposite. Faith is stepping out when you don't see the landing. It's planning a BBQ for 100 people when you don't know who will show up. It's sponsoring a dirt race car to reach people who would never step foot in a church building. God is able to do "immeasurably more" than we can imagine (Ephesians 3:20), but our imagination is usually limited by our fear of failure. Following the Star often means leaving the comfort of the "East" to go on a journey that makes no sense to the world.

The Challenge:

Where have you settled for "manageable" instead of "miraculous"? Are you only doing things that you can pull off with your own strength and bank account?

Action Step:

Write down one dream or ministry idea that terrifies you—something that would undeniably fail if God didn't show up. Pray over that specifically today: "Lord, if this is from You, make me brave enough to chase it."



Day 5: Worship in the Wild

The Rundown:

We need to kill the idea that worship only happens when the music is playing on Sunday morning. Worship is Romans 12:1—presenting your bodies as a living sacrifice. That means your worship happens when you're driving in traffic, when you're changing a diaper, when you're framing a house, or when you're answering emails. The Magi opened their treasures, but you have different treasures to open: your work ethic, your attitude, and your integrity. If we only worship on Sunday, we starve the other six days of the week.

The Challenge:

Take the "sacred" out of the church building and bring it into the mundane. Can you scrub a toilet to the glory of God? Can you drive the speed limit as an act of worship?

Action Step:

Choose one mundane task you hate doing today (doing dishes, the commute, a boring meeting). Before you start, say, "Lord, I am doing this for Your glory." Do it with excellence, without complaining, as an offering to Him.