

Three At-Home Devotionals

From “Order Matters” — Luke 6:39–42

Devotional 1: Who Is Teaching You?

Scripture: Luke 6:39–40

“Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit?”

Jesus asks a simple question with a serious answer: **Who is teaching you?**

In Luke 6, Jesus describes a blind person trying to lead another blind person. The problem isn't that the leader is trying to be helpful. The problem is that the leader can't see where he is going. If both people follow him, they are headed toward the same pit.

Jesus then says, “A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher.”

That means the people we follow matter.

We are all being discipled by someone. We learn from parents, teachers, coaches, friends, pastors, authors, online personalities, and countless other voices. Whether we realize it or not, somebody is helping shape what we believe, what we value, and how we live.

The question isn't simply, “**Am I following someone?**”

The question is, “**Where is that person leading me?**”

The Pharisees were teachers in Jesus' day, but Jesus warned people about following them. They were not leading people toward Christ. They were leading people toward their own religious performance.

Paul gives us a better pattern in 1 Corinthians 11:1: “Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.”

Notice the order. Paul doesn't simply say, “Imitate me.” He says, in effect, “**Follow me because I am following Christ.**”

That is the kind of person we need in our lives.

A good teacher, mentor, parent, friend, or church leader doesn't ultimately point us toward themselves. They point us toward Jesus.

And this also gives us a question to ask about ourselves: **Are we pointing other people toward Jesus?**

You don't have to be a pastor to disciple someone. You may be a parent helping your children. You may be a friend encouraging someone. You may be a Sunday school teacher, coach, youth leader, or older Christian helping someone take their next step.

Whoever you influence, remember that your example matters.

Jesus is the teacher who will never lead us into a pit.

Reflect

1. Who has had the greatest influence on your spiritual life?
2. Is that person pointing you toward Jesus?
3. Who might be looking to you for an example of what following Jesus looks like?

Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for being the perfect teacher. Help me recognize the voices that are shaping my life. Give me wisdom to follow people who point me toward You, and help me point others toward You as well. Amen.

Devotional 2: Learn Before You Lead

Scripture: Luke 6:41–42

“Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?”

Imagine someone walking up to you and offering to remove a tiny piece of sawdust from your eye.

That sounds helpful—until you notice that a giant piece of wood is sticking out of their own eye.

Jesus uses that ridiculous picture to make a serious point: **the worst time to teach a lesson is when you haven't learned it yourself.**

Jesus isn't saying we should never help other people. In fact, He tells us that after we deal with the log in our own eye, we can see clearly enough to help our brother with his speck.

The problem is the order.

First, deal with your own eye.

Then, help your brother.

This is one of the dangers of spiritual hypocrisy. We can become very good at telling other people what they should do while neglecting what God is asking us to do ourselves.

It's easy to recognize someone else's impatience while ignoring our own. It's easy to notice someone else's lack of generosity while making excuses for our own selfishness. It's easy to talk about someone else's spiritual weakness without asking whether we are growing ourselves.

Jesus calls us to something better.

Before we rush to correct someone else, we should ask, **"Have I learned this lesson myself?"**

That doesn't mean we have to be perfect before we can encourage someone. If perfection were required, none of us could help anyone.

It means we should be honest about where we are.

We shouldn't pretend to be spiritually mature when we aren't. We shouldn't act like we have mastered a lesson that God is still teaching us.

The goal isn't to become actors who pretend to be Christians. The goal is to become disciples who are actually following Christ.

And discipleship takes time.

Sometimes God needs to teach us a lesson again. Sometimes we have to return to something we thought we had already learned. Sometimes we aren't ready for the next step because God is still working on the step we're currently taking.

That's okay.

God is forming us.

Reflect

1. Is there an area where you are quick to correct others but slow to examine yourself?
2. What lesson might God still be teaching you?
3. What would it look like to take your own spiritual growth seriously before trying to lead someone else?

Prayer

Father, help me see clearly. Show me the "logs" in my own life before I focus on the "specks" in someone else's. Keep me from pretending to be more mature than I really am. Teach me, shape me, and make me more like Jesus. Amen.

Devotional 3: Trust the Process

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 3:6–7

"I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth."

We often want to skip ahead.

We want to know the ending before we've learned the beginning. We want to be mature before we've gone through the process of maturing. We want to do great things for God without waiting for God to prepare us.

But **order matters**.

The Christian life isn't simply a checklist of things to accomplish. It is a path. Each step prepares us for another step.

The sermon described the church's discipleship pathway this way:

Conversion → Baptism → Devotion → Evangelism → Membership → Stewardship → Corporate Worship → Discipleship → Mortification → Missions → Offices

Not everyone's journey will look exactly the same. Our growth may be winding. We may revisit lessons we thought we had already learned. But the basic principle remains: **God cares about the process of forming disciples.**

Hebrews 5 reminds us that there are basic lessons we need to learn before we move on to solid food.

Think about a baby.

You don't give a baby a steak and say, "It's time to grow up."

You start with milk.

That's not an insult to the baby. It's part of the process.

In the same way, there may be things you aren't ready for yet. You may have to wait. You may have to learn something again. You may have to take a smaller step before you're ready for a bigger one.

That isn't wasted time.

Paul says, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth."

A seed, a young plant, and a mature plant all matter.

So does the beginning, middle, and end of your spiritual growth.

Maybe you're frustrated because you aren't where you want to be yet. Maybe you've been waiting for an opportunity to serve. Maybe you wish you were further along spiritually.

Don't despise the season you're in.

You aren't just waiting. You are being formed.

God is growing you in ways you may not be able to see yet.

And if you're not yet a Christian, the first step isn't trying harder to become a better person. Jesus calls people who recognize their spiritual poverty, hunger, and need. The beginning of the Christian life starts by recognizing that you cannot save yourself.

You need a Savior.

And that Savior is Jesus Christ.

So wherever you are on the path, trust God with the process. Take the next faithful step. Learn the lesson in front of you. Let God give the growth.

Reflect

1. Where are you tempted to rush ahead spiritually?
2. What "next step" might God be asking you to take?
3. Can you thank God for the season of growth you are currently in, even if it feels slow?

Prayer

God, thank You for growing me one step at a time. Help me not to rush ahead or pretend to be more mature than I am. Give me patience to learn, humility to grow, and faith to trust Your work in my life. Help me take the next faithful step toward Christ. Amen.