

Following the Leaders

This 5-day devotional guide will help you prepare your heart for the upcoming Sunday sermon, "Following the Leaders." It may also be used as a guide for family devotions and is for the week beginning Monday, November 23, 2026.

Monday

Scripture: Hebrews 13:17

Questions for Reflection

- What two commands are believers given regarding their leaders in this verse?
- What responsibility do these leaders have toward those they serve?
- Why is it important that church members view pastoral leadership as God's provision rather than merely human authority?
- What attitudes make it easier or more difficult to receive biblical leadership from your pastors?

Questions for Children

- What does this verse tell believers to do in relation to their leaders?
- What are leaders watching over?

Prayer Prompt

Lord, thank You for providing faithful leaders to care for Your people. Help me receive godly leadership with humility, trust, and a desire to follow Your Word.

Tuesday

Scripture: Hebrews 13:17

Questions for Reflection

- To whom will church leaders give an account for their ministry?
- What does the verse say about leaders serving with joy instead of grief?
- How can church members contribute to the joy of their pastors' ministry?
- What is one practical way you can encourage or support your pastors this week?

Questions for Children

- Who will church leaders answer to one day?
- Should leaders do their work with joy or grief?

Prayer Prompt

Father, help me be an encouragement to those who shepherd Your church. Teach me to strengthen their ministry through prayer, cooperation, and gratitude.

Wednesday

Scripture: Psalm 23:1-3

Questions for Reflection

- What does the Shepherd provide for His sheep in these verses?
- What places does the Shepherd lead His sheep?
- What do these verses teach about the nature of a shepherd's care?
- How has God used pastors, teachers, or other spiritual leaders to help guide and refresh your soul?

Questions for Children

- Who is the Shepherd in this psalm?
- Beside what kind of waters does the Shepherd lead His sheep?

Prayer Prompt

Good Shepherd, thank You for leading and caring for Your people. Help me trust Your guidance and appreciate the shepherds You use to care for me.

Thursday

Scripture: Psalm 23:4-5

Questions for Reflection

- What does the psalmist say about walking through the valley of the shadow of death?
- What two shepherd's tools are mentioned in these verses?

- How do these verses show both the comfort and protection that a shepherd provides?
- When facing challenges, how can you become more willing to receive biblical counsel and care from your pastors?

Questions for Children

- What valley is mentioned in this passage?
- What two items belonging to the shepherd comfort the sheep?

Prayer Prompt

Lord, thank You that You are with Your people even in difficult places. Help me receive the encouragement, counsel, and protection You provide through faithful shepherds.

Friday

Scripture: Hebrews 13:17; Psalm 23

Questions for Reflection

- According to these passages, what responsibilities belong to shepherds and what responsibilities belong to sheep?
- What benefits come from following the care and guidance of a faithful shepherd?
- How do these passages challenge a consumer mindset that only wants to receive from the church without submitting to spiritual care?

- What specific step can you take to strengthen your relationship with your pastors and participate more fully in the life of your church?

Questions for Children

- What does a shepherd do for his sheep?
- What do church leaders do for the people in the church?

Prayer Prompt

Heavenly Father, thank You for being the Shepherd of Your people and for providing faithful pastors to care for Your church. Help me follow their biblical leadership with joy and grow as a healthy, committed member of Christ's flock.