

Kingdom Preppers Week 5
'Spiritually Leading Yourself'
03-01-2026

Throughout this series, we've defined what it means to be a **Kingdom Prepper** — someone who lives daily preparing for the Kingdom of God rather than building their own temporary kingdom. We've walked through: God's design for men throughout Scripture, the consistent pattern from Adam to the New Testament, and God's calling for men to be spiritual leaders. We established this order: You can't spiritually lead the church if you can't lead your family. You can't lead your family if you can't lead your marriage. You can't lead your marriage if you can't lead yourself.

Today's focus: Spiritually Leading Yourself

1. SURRENDER: Spiritually leading yourself begins with surrender. This goes against our natural instincts as men: we fight, we protect, we provide, we stand firm, and we are strong. But when we gave our lives to Christ, we surrendered them. He became Lord. We became servants.

Perspective Determines Surrender: at the Last Supper: the disciples asked, "Is it me, Lord?", Judas asked, "Is it me, Rabbi?" The difference? Lord = authority. Rabbi = teacher. If Jesus is only a teacher, you'll listen. If Jesus is Lord, you'll surrender.

Luke 9:23 "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me."

The cross meant death. It meant carrying your own instrument of execution. Jesus was saying: deny yourself, die to yourself, do it daily. Your greatest enemy isn't culture. It isn't politics. It isn't your boss. It's the man in the mirror.

Self-denial means letting go of control, laying down pride, crucifying selfish desires, choosing God's will over your own. Surrender is not weakness — it is strength under authority.

2. GUARD YOUR HEART: Proverbs 4:23 "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it."

To guard means: to watch over, to protect like a soldier at a gate, to monitor what is allowed in. Your heart includes: mind, will, desires, and motives. What you consume shapes you. If you fill your life with: Ssexual impurity → you'll struggle with lust, toxic media → you'll grow angry or bitter, or ungodly influence → you'll drift spiritually.

Spiritual leadership requires vigilance.

Romans 12:2 "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."

Transformation is not behavior modification. It's inner renewal. Renewal happens through: the Word of God, daily exposure to truth, and consistent time in Scripture. You can't renew your mind once a week. Transformation requires daily engagement.

3. DISCIPLINE: We understand discipline in every other area of life: work, sports, hobbies, and physical fitness, Excellence never happens accidentally.

1Corinthians 9:24–27 - Paul compares the Christian life to athletic training. Key truths: we run to win, athletes discipline themselves for temporary rewards, we discipline ourselves for eternal rewards, and spiritual growth requires intentional training. Spiritual discipline includes: daily prayer, daily Scripture reading, practicing forgiveness, choosing patience, exercising self-control, and training your body to obey your spirit. Transformation requires: consistency, dedication, and intentional practice. No one drifts toward godliness.

4. RESPONSIBILITY: Romans 14:12 "Each of us will give an account of ourselves to God."

No excuses, no blaming upbringing, no blaming circumstances, and no blaming time constraints. You are responsible for: your obedience, your growth, your discipline and your surrender. Godliness requires effort.

1Timothy 4:8 "Physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things." It impacts: this life, the life to come

Strength for the Calling - Philippians 4:13 We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. Ephesians 2:10 We are God's workmanship, created for good works prepared in advance. God prepared you. God equipped you. God called you.

He has given you what you need — through Him.

FINAL THOUGHTS: Spiritually leading yourself means: daily surrendering to Christ, guarding your heart, disciplining your flesh, and taking responsibility for your obedience. This changes everything: your marriage, your children your household, your workplace, for generations to come. It starts with you. You are leading whether you realize it or not. The question is: **What direction are you leading?**

Galatians 5:16–17 "Walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh..." The flesh and the Spirit are in conflict. The victory begins with surrender.

FINAL CHALLENGE

Men: Don't wait for your wife. Don't wait for your circumstances. Don't wait for motivation.

Start today: by surrender, guarding, discipline and taking responsibility.

Lead yourself — and watch God change everything.

MARCH 2026

CUMBERLAND FELLOWSHIP

CFLife.Church

Pre-Stuffed Egg Drive- Help us reach our goal of 20,000 pre-stuffed eggs! Last day to drop off your eggs is 3/22 (*no chocolate, please*).

We're also collecting separate prizes worth \$1-\$10 to give away alongside the eggs.

We need Volunteers for the event -
please register on the app!

Any questions? Email Sheryl at sheryl@cumberlandfellowship.com
or call 931-707-1883

Thank you for helping make this extra special!



Coming up:

Guyana Mission trip
3/6 - 3/15

Italy Grow Trip
3/18 - 3/25

SN Prom 3/21

Men's Breakfast 3/28

Baptism Sunday 3/29

Prayer & Praise 3/30

Sign up on the CFLife App

- To Serve
- Submit prayer request
- Join a small group
- Register for a class
- Register for baptism

