

# Devotion 20: Blind Guides

March 17, 2026

**Scripture:** *Matthew 15:14*

*"Let them alone; they are blind guides. And if the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit."*

## Devotion

Imagine asking someone for directions and they say with great confidence, "Go left here, then turn right at the old barn — I'm pretty sure." That little phrase "pretty sure" can lead you into serious trouble. We live in a world full of confident voices telling us which way to go. Social media, popular opinion, celebrities, self-help books, even our own hearts — all of them claim to know the way. And most of them mean well. But meaning well and knowing the way are two very different things.

Jesus warns His disciples about the religious leaders of His day — the Pharisees — calling them "blind guides." These were educated, devout men who memorized Scripture and kept every rule. But Jesus says something startling: they were following the traditions of men rather than the Word of God. They were so confident in their own systems and traditions that they couldn't see the Savior standing right in front of them. Confident and wrong is a dangerous combination.

Lent is a time to ask ourselves honestly: Who or what am I actually following? Our culture says, "Trust yourself. Follow your heart. Your feelings are your truth." But our hearts are shaped by sin, and feelings make poor compasses. The only guide who is never wrong, never lost, and never leading us to a dead end is the one who says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." This Lenten season, let us put down the unreliable guides and pick up the One who actually knows the way.

## Discussion Questions

1. What are some "blind guides" our culture encourages us to follow today — things that seem like good guides but can lead us astray?
2. Why do you think the Pharisees, who knew the Scriptures so well, missed Jesus?
3. What does it mean to "follow your heart," and why is that not always trustworthy?

## Closing Prayer

*Gracious God, forgive us for the times we have followed the wrong voices — even our own hearts — instead of Your Word. Open our eyes to see the blind guides around us and give us the wisdom to follow only You. Guard us from being confidently wrong. In Jesus' name. Amen.*

**Family Action Item:** This week, when your family is about to make a decision — even a small one — ask together: "What does God's Word say about this?" Practice the habit of going to Scripture before following feelings.