

Devotion 19: Lost on the Trail

March 16, 2026

Scripture: *Isaiah 42:16*

"And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them."

Devotion

Have you ever been on a hike and found yourself following a path that just felt... wrong? Maybe the trail markings disappeared, or you were relying on someone who was guessing. There is a specific kind of fear that comes when you realize you don't know where you are and you are not sure the person leading you does either. We have all been there in one way or another — not just on hiking trails, but in life. We face decisions we can't see clearly, futures we can't predict, and roads that look the same in every direction.

God speaks to His people in Isaiah 42 in the middle of exactly that kind of lostness. They were heading into exile, into darkness, into paths they had never known. And God makes a remarkable promise: He will lead them anyway. Not just around the hard parts — through them. He doesn't promise flat, easy terrain. He promises to be with them on the rough places and to turn them level. He doesn't promise a map. He promises Himself as the guide.

During Lent, we are reminded that we are all, in a very real way, blind. We cannot see the full picture of our lives. But we have a God who has never once lost a single person He promised to lead. The same God who guided Abraham to a land he didn't know, who led Israel through the wilderness with fire and cloud, who raised Jesus from a tomb — that God says to you today: "I will not forsake you."

Discussion Questions

1. Can you think of a time you felt lost — on a trip, in a decision, or in life — and something or someone helped guide you?
2. What does it mean that God says He will lead "the blind"? Who do you think He is talking about?
3. How is God's promise to guide us through hard places different from a promise to keep hard places away from us?

Closing Prayer

Lord God, we confess that we cannot see the path ahead. We are easily led astray by our own guesses and by voices that don't know the way. Lead us by Your hand. Turn our rough places into level ground. Remind us that You have never forsaken those You love. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Family Action Item: As a family, talk about a "wilderness time" in your life when you felt lost but can now see how God was guiding you. Give thanks to God together for His faithful leading.