


## Lead Yourself First

Apply your heart to instruction and your ears to words of knowledge — Proverbs 23:12 (NIV)

Leadership isn't just about influencing others—it starts with mastering yourself. Before you can effectively guide anyone else, you must first lead the person in the mirror.

### 1. You Are the First Person You Must Lead

- If you don't lead yourself in **discipline**, others won't follow your example.
- If you don't manage your **emotions**, your leadership will be unstable.
- If you don't set **spiritual priorities**, you'll lead from pressure instead of purpose.  
 Self-leadership is the foundation of godly influence. Before God gives you more to lead, He teaches you to lead yourself.

### 2. The Mind Is the First Organ to Master

- Everything begins in the mind: faith or fear, peace or panic.
- That's why Scripture calls us to **renew our minds** (Romans 12:2) and **take every thought captive** (2 Corinthians 10:5).
- Your mind must be **guarded, trained, and filled with God's truth** daily.

### 3. Apply and Align

Proverbs 23:12 urges us to apply our heart and tune our ears to wisdom. This requires daily intentionality:

- Set your mind on things above (Colossians 3:2)
- Speak truth over feelings
- Guard your input (what you read, hear, watch)
- Align your actions with God's Word

#### Reflection:

- Am I leading myself well?
- Have I taken control of my thoughts—or are my thoughts running me?

#### Prayer:

Lord, help me lead myself first. Teach me to take ownership of my thoughts, my habits, and my choices. Renew my mind, purify my heart, and align me with Your Word. May I lead from self-discipline and spiritual clarity. In Jesus' name, Amen.