

# Star: Image of God's Guidance

➔Matthew 2:1-2 ((Contemporary English Version))

## LEARNING FROM GOD'S WILL

01: Instead of Being \_\_\_\_\_...

Following God can be \_\_\_\_\_.

➔2 Corinthians 11:23-28 ((Contemporary English Version))

02: Instead of Being \_\_\_\_\_...

Following God is often \_\_\_\_\_.

➔Psalm 37:23-24 ((Contemporary English Version))

WHEN GOD'S WILL ISN'T AS CLEAR AS WE  
HAD HOPED - WE OFTEN DO 3 THINGS...

(01) Look for a \_\_\_\_\_ - Bible tells us  
that living by feeling can be very \_\_\_\_\_.

(02) Look for a \_\_\_\_\_ - We want God to fit  
into our Box - Following God is an \_\_\_\_\_.

(03) Look for a \_\_\_\_\_ - When things do  
not go according to our Plan - We \_\_\_\_\_.

03: Instead of Being \_\_\_\_\_...

Following God is often \_\_\_\_\_.

➔Mark 8:34 ((Amplified Bible))

## MATTHEW 2:1-2 ((CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH VERSION))

### The Wise Men

1 When Jesus was born in the village of Bethlehem in Judea, Herod was king. During this time some wise men from the east came to Jerusalem 2 and said, "Where is the child born to be king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

## 2 CORINTHIANS 11:23-28

### ((CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH VERSION))

23 Are they servants of Christ? I am a fool to talk this way, but I serve him better than they do. I have worked harder and have been put in jail more times. I have been beaten with whips more and have been in danger of death more often. 24 Five times the Jews gave me thirty-nine lashes with a whip. 25 Three times the Romans beat me with a big stick, and once my enemies stoned me. I have been shipwrecked three times, and I even had to spend a night and a day in the sea. 26 During my many travels, I have been in danger from rivers, robbers, my own people, and foreigners. My life has been in danger in cities, in deserts, at sea, and with people who only pretended to be the Lord's followers. 27 I have worked and struggled and spent many sleepless nights. I have gone hungry and thirsty and often had nothing to eat. I have been cold from not having enough clothes to keep me warm. 28 Besides everything else, each day I am burdened down, worrying about all the churches.

## PSALM 37:23-24 ((CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH VERSION))

23 If you do what the LORD wants, he will make certain each step you take is sure. 24 The LORD will hold your hand, and if you stumble, you still won't fall.

## MARK 8:34 ((AMPLIFIED BIBLE))

34 And Jesus called [to Him] the throng with His disciples and said to them, If anyone intends to come after Me, let him deny himself [forget, ignore, disown, and lose sight of himself and his own interests] and take up his cross, and [joining Me as a disciple and siding with My party] follow with Me [continually, cleaving steadfastly to Me].

((extra notes))

NOT ALL THE TIME - BUT IT CAN BE A  
CHALLENGE - A CHALLENGE TO YOUR...

(01) \_\_\_\_\_  
{SERVING THE LORD MEANS MORE SACRIFICES TO YOUR TIME}

(02) \_\_\_\_\_  
{SERVING THE LORD MEANS USING YOUR **GIFTS** /  
**TALENTS IN SERVICE UNTO JESUS CHRIST**}

(03) \_\_\_\_\_  
{SERVING JESUS CHRIST MEANS YOU ARE TO **GIVE**  
**YOUR TITHE, GIVE YOUR MONEY - BIBLICALLY**}

THAT'S WHAT GOD'S WILL DOES FOR US -  
WHEN YOU ARE IN **GOD'S WILL** - YOU...

(01) \_\_\_\_\_

(02) \_\_\_\_\_

(03) \_\_\_\_\_

((extra notes))

**PROPHETIC WORD** PSALM 43:1-5

**1** Oh God, declare me innocent (*vindicate me*), and defend my cause against the ungodly, rescue me (*deliver me, help me to escape*) from the deceitful liars. **2** I run to You for protection (*You are my Fortress*). Why have You turned away from me? (*you feel neglected by God, prayers not answered as fast you would like*). Why must I go on suffering (*feel distressed*) from the cruelty of my enemies? **3** Send Your light (*happiness which causes you see things more clearly*) and Your truth (*stability which makes you feel your footing is sure and established*) to guide me. Let them (*God's light, truth, and guidance*) lead me to Your house on Your sacred mountain (*into the presence of God*). **4** Then I will worship at Your altar because You make me joyful (*strengthen my life*). You are my God, and I will praise You. Yes, I will praise You as I play my harp (*stringed instrument*). **5** Why am I discouraged (*depressed*)? Why am I restless (*war raging inside of my mind and heart*)? I trust You (*place my hope and confidence in God*)! And I will praise You again because You help me (*bring victory and prosperity into my life*), and You are my God.