

Devotional Guide

April 27-May 2, 2026



God-Centered

Where Home Begins

Speaker: Mike Kleven, Lead Pastor

The message explores how every attempt to build life around self-reliance, success, or control eventually leaves us with an empty ache and longing—just like Bob and the Rich Young Ruler. Yet Jesus calls us to a better way.

Through Mark 12:30 and 1 Corinthians 10:31 we discover three key insights: loving God with our all, doing everything for His glory, and making Jesus the true center. Four commitments (Bible-based, Jesus-following, Spirit-guided, Father-honoring) and four practical steps show us how to live it out.

This truth replaces the empty chase with purpose-filled living in Jesus and helps more people find their true home in Him.

How to Use This Guide:

Set aside 10-15 minutes daily. Read the Bible, reflect on the thought, answer questions, pray, and take the action step. Commit to this for growth—journal insights and share with a friend for accountability.

Day 1: The Empty Chase Leaves Us Longing

Bible Reading: Mark 12:28-30; Luke 9:23

The sermon opened with Bob’s story of success that couldn’t fill the ache inside. Like the Rich Young Ruler, many of us keep God at a distance while chasing control or comfort.

Being God-centered is where home begins because self-centered living always leaves us empty. Jesus invites us to deny ourselves, take up our cross daily, and follow Him. When we do, the longing finds its answer in the One who made us for relationship with Him.

Reflection Questions:

1. What does the Rich Young Ruler’s story reveal about the cost of self-centered living?
2. Where have you felt the “empty chase” in your own life?
3. How does Luke 9:23 challenge your daily choices?
4. What small surrender could you make today?

Prayer Prompt: Lord, forgive me for chasing empty things. Reveal where I’ve kept You at a distance. Draw me back to You as the true center. Amen.

Action Step: Write down one thing you’ve been chasing for security and pray over it, asking God to take its place.

Day 2: Love God with Your ALL

Bible Reading: Mark 12:30; Deuteronomy 6:4-5

Jesus answered the teacher of the law with the greatest commandment: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”

The sermon reminded us this wholehearted love leaves nothing for empty pursuits. In Eden it came naturally—until sin drove us into exile. Jesus came to bring us home. When we love God with everything, the empty chase loses its power and purpose fills our days.

Reflection Questions:

1. What does “with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength” look like practically?
2. Which part of your life (heart, soul, mind, strength) is hardest to surrender?
3. How does wholehearted love change the way you face daily struggles?

Prayer Prompt: Father, I want to love You with every part of me. Help me hold nothing back. Fill me with love that pushes out empty chasing. Amen.

Action Step: Memorize Mark 12:30 and repeat it every time you feel pulled toward an empty pursuit today.

Day 3: Whatever You Do for God’s Glory

Bible Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:31; Colossians 3:23

The sermon showed how ordinary life—eating, drinking, working, parenting—can become worship when done for God’s glory. 1 Corinthians 10:31 turns the everyday into an opportunity to honor the Father.

Being God-centered replaces the empty chase with purpose-filled living in Jesus. No moment is too small. When we shift our focus from self to the glory of God, even routine tasks gain eternal weight.

Reflection Questions:

1. What ordinary activity could you do differently this week “for the glory of God”?

2. How does Colossians 3:23 connect work and worship?

3. Where have you seen God’s purpose show up in everyday moments?

Prayer Prompt: Lord, help me do everything—big or small—for Your glory. Turn my ordinary into worship. Amen.

Action Step: Choose one routine task today and do it consciously for God’s glory. Tell someone about the difference it made.

Day 5: The Four Commitments of God-Centered Living

Bible Reading: 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Galatians 5:25

The sermon described four commitments that keep us God-centered: Bible-based, Jesus-following, Spirit-guided, and Father-honoring. Like spokes in a wheel, they support a life that truly belongs to God.

These commitments equip us to carry forward God’s mission and find our true home in Jesus. Being God-centered is where home begins.

Reflection Questions:

1. Which commitment feels strongest in your life right now?

2. Which needs attention? How does the Holy Spirit help us stay God-centered?

3. What does “Father-honoring” look like in everyday relationships?

Prayer Prompt: Holy Spirit, guide me into all truth. Help me live Bible-based, Jesus-following, Spirit-guided, and Father-honoring. Amen.

Action Step: Pick one commitment and do one practical thing today that lives it out (open your Bible first, pray before deciding, etc.).



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