

CHARGED TO SHOW & TELL

PART 1



SHOW & TELL

"All right, class, it's time for show and tell. I see that everyone has brought an item to school to show the rest of the class, so I'll call you up one by one. When it's your turn, you'll do these three things:

1. Tell us the name of your item.
2. Explain why you chose to bring this item to school.
3. Tell us what it does or how it works.

Let's begin."



THE REAL SHOW & TELL

The students were given a charge: to bring an item to school and explain it to the class. This activity focuses on each child showcasing something special to them, revealing a bit of who they are through the item they chose.

But when God charges us to lead, He does not ask us to display our gifts for the sake of our own glory. Our "show and tell" is not about drawing attention to ourselves or our talents. Instead, God calls us to use our gifts as tools to display and explain His glory and His will.

The purpose of our gifts is to serve a higher mission, one that shifts the focus away from us and toward Him. While the world often concentrates on self-promotion, God's charge to us is about promoting His truth, His love, and His purpose for humanity. Our gifts are simply the tools we use to fulfill this divine mission.

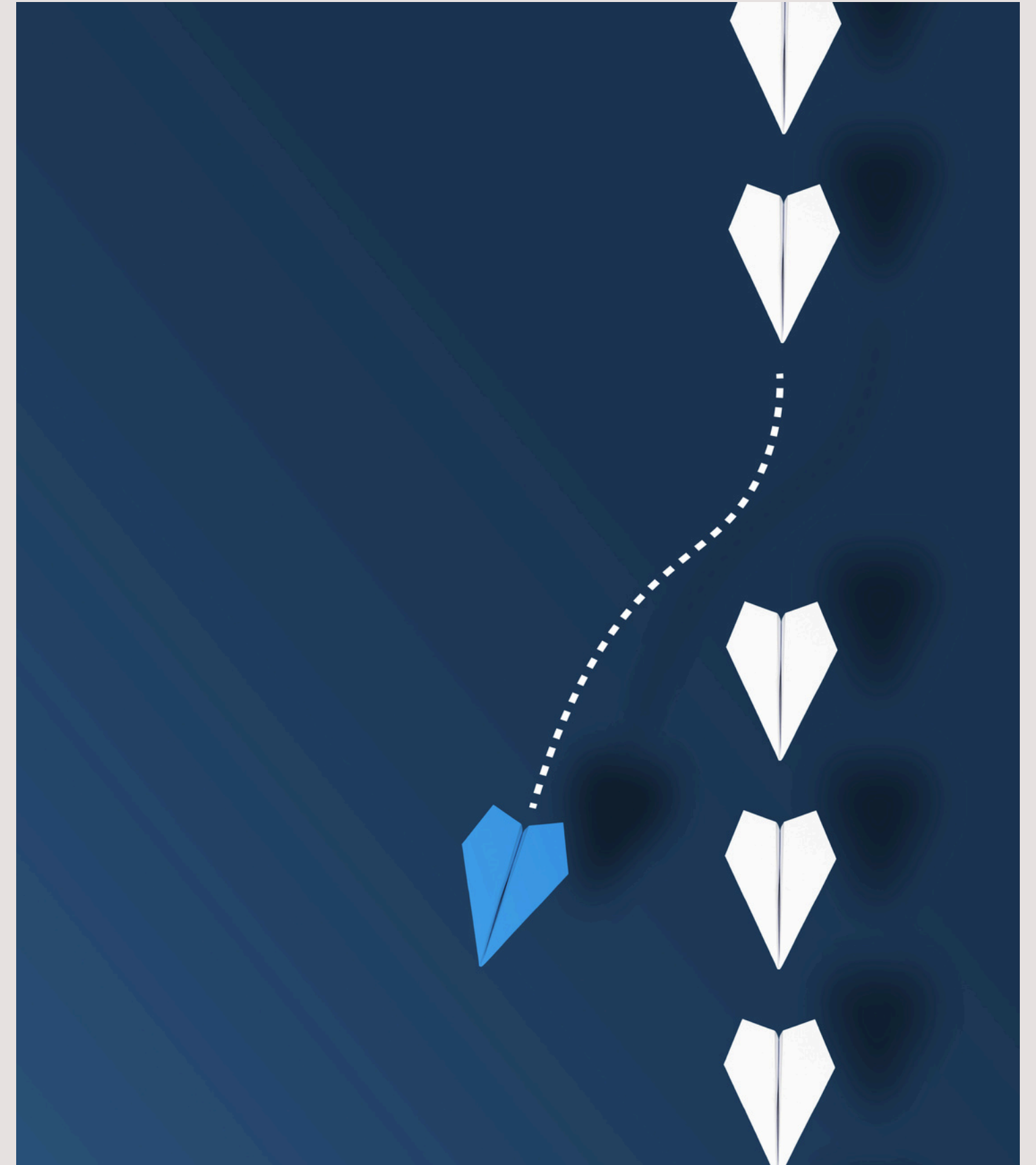


UNDERSTANDING GOD'S CHARGE TO LEAD

To Lead is about going first, showing the way to truth by being an example and following God's commands.

To lead according to God's plan means to focus on His mission alone, making His mission your mission.

Before we can lead others, we must first understand what it means to be led by God. The best leaders are those who embody God's mission and live according to His standards. Just like a child must understand their item to present it, we must understand the purpose and significance of our gifts in the context of God's mission.



SCRIPTURE

Scripture Example: Joshua 1:5-9 (NLT):

God charges Joshua with leading the Israelites into the Promised Land. The instructions He gives Joshua highlight the essence of godly leadership:

"No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. For I will be with you as I was with Moses. I will not fail you or abandon you."

"Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people to possess all the land I swore to their ancestors I would give them."

"Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do."

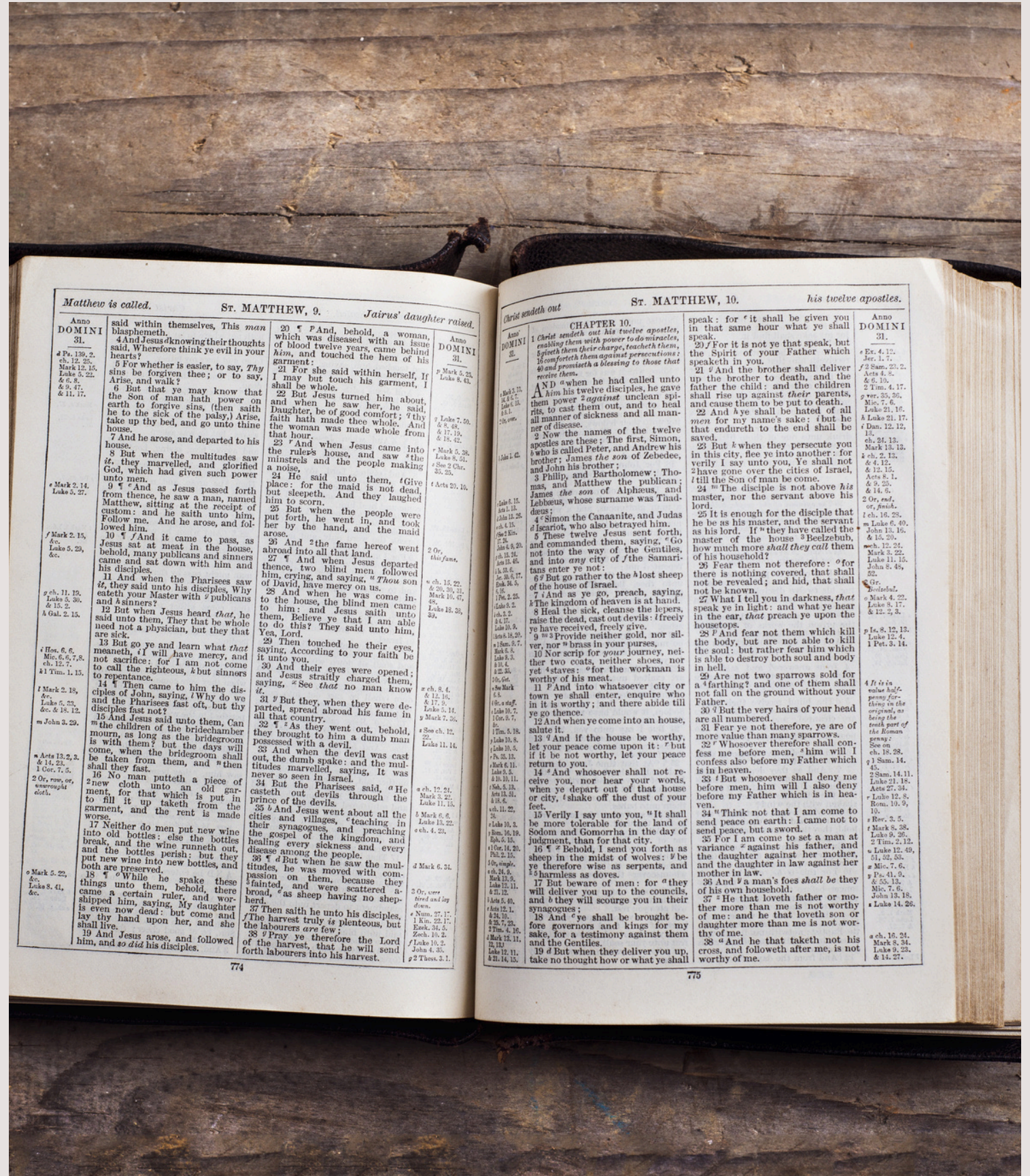
"Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do."

"This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."



KEY TAKEWAYS FROM JOSHUA'S CHARGE

1. God's Presence ensures victory: "No one will be able to stand against you."
 2. Courage and Obedience are essential: "Be strong and courageous."
 3. Success comes from adherence to God's Word: "Do not deviate... Meditate on it day and night."
- Joshua's charge was to focus not on himself or his abilities but on God's mission, using the gifts he had been given to fulfill God's promise.



EXAMPLES OF LEADERSHIP IN THE BIBLE

To understand what it means to lead according to God's charge, let's examine examples of leaders from the Bible. We'll look at five leaders who succeeded and five who did not, to see the outcomes of focusing either on God's mission or on themselves.



LEADERS WHO SUCCEEDED

Joshua

Reference: Book of Joshua

Charge: To lead the Israelites into the Promised Land.

Outcome: Success - Joshua faithfully followed God's instructions, leading Israel to victory and fulfillment of God's promise.



LEADERS WHO SUCCEEDED

Deborah

Reference: Judges 4-5

Charge: To lead Israel during Canaanite oppression.

Outcome: Success - Deborah led Israel to victory with wisdom and courage, displaying trust in God's direction.



LEADERS WHO SUCCEEDED

Gideon

Reference: Judges 6-8

Charge: To deliver Israel from Midianite oppression.

Outcome: Success - Gideon obeyed God's instructions and, against overwhelming odds, led Israel to victory.



LEADERS WHO SUCCEEDED

Nehemiah

Reference: Book of Nehemiah

Charge: To rebuild Jerusalem's walls.

Outcome: Success - Nehemiah achieved his mission by leading with integrity, prayer, and faith in God.



LEADERS WHO SUCCEEDED

Josiah

Reference: 2 Kings 22-23, 2 Chronicles 34-35

Charge: To reform Judah and restore true worship.

Outcome: Success - Josiah faithfully pursued God's word, leading a spiritual revival and reforming the nation.



LEADERS WHO DID NOT SUCCEED

Adam

Reference: Genesis 1-5, Romans 5:12-21, 1 Corinthians 15:22

Charge: To steward God's creation and obey His command.

Outcome: Failure - Adam disobeyed God, resulting in the fall of mankind.



LEADERS WHO DID NOT SUCCEED

Moses

Reference: Exodus, Numbers, Deuteronomy

Charge: To lead the Israelites out of Egypt and into the Promised Land.

Outcome: Partial Success - Moses led Israel out of Egypt but did not enter the Promised Land due to disobedience.



LEADERS WHO DID NOT SUCCEED

Solomon

Reference: 1 Kings 1-11

Charge: To lead Israel as king and uphold God's laws.

Outcome: Partial Success - Solomon began his reign with wisdom but later led the nation into idolatry.



LEADERS WHO DID NOT SUCCEED

Saul

Reference: 1 Samuel 9-31

Charge: To be the first King of Israel.

Outcome: Failure - Saul disobeyed God's commands and was rejected as king.



LEADERS WHO DID NOT SUCCEED

Jezebel

Reference: 1 Kings 16:31, 18:4, 19:2, 21; 2 Kings 9

Charge: As Queen, to influence the nation.

Outcome: Failure - Jezebel led Israel into deeper idolatry and was ultimately opposed and condemned by God's prophets.



REFLECTING ON OUR CHARGE

Just as the students in the classroom are charged to show and tell — to bring their chosen items and explain them to the class — we are charged to use our gifts to display and reveal God's glory and His will.

Our mission is not about showcasing our own abilities or gifts. It's about fulfilling the purpose God has set for us by focusing on Him, using our gifts as tools to advance His kingdom and spread His truth.

Reflect on the gifts you have been given. How will you use them to show and tell the world about God's glory and will? How will you fulfill the charge God has placed upon you, focusing not on yourself but on His mission?

God has charged each of us to lead, not by magnifying ourselves, but by using the gifts He has given us to magnify Him. Let us be strong, courageous, and steadfast in our commitment to His mission.



PRAYER

