

# BEST GUIDE FORWARD

**W**hen the people of Israel were wandering through the desert, they had a limited view of what was happening. They were facing a struggle much bigger than themselves, and they had to decide whom to trust. They needed a guide.

Have you ever noticed that some of our favorite stories follow that same pattern? We see young Luke Skywalker realizing his destiny through the help of his guide, Obi-Wan Kenobi. Katniss Everdeen overcomes the Hunger Games with Haymitch Abernathy as her mentor. Dorothy and her friends make their way down the yellow-brick road trusting the guidance of Glinda the Good Witch. When you think of the best movies ever, many of them feature this dynamic.

These stories involve a character you've started to like and want to see succeed. This person faces a struggle much bigger than themselves. They want to be the hero that overcomes the situation, but they can't do it alone. They need help from someone they can trust. They need a guide.

This common storyline goes way beyond entertainment—it's almost like God has designed us to embrace it. We relate to these characters because we relate to their struggles and their desire to overcome them.

Sometimes our daily lives don't seem like epic tales; they seem more like random sequences of trivial events. But the people of Israel did not feel any different than us. They didn't know their story would be an example of God's faithfulness that would inspire generations to come. They were just trying to live through each day—the good and the bad.

God made a promise that he would be with them, just like he promises to be with us today. God told them he would guide them, but their struggles as they wandered in the desert forced them to choose daily: Will we trust God or will we trust ourselves?

Often when we are walking through our daily struggles, that same decision is put before us: Will we trust in our own way or will we trust in God's way? We face situations that are much bigger than ourselves. We can try to work through them from our own limited perspectives, or we can turn toward a guide, God, who offers a higher vantage point.

**IN THE STRUGGLES OF OUR CIRCUMSTANCES TODAY,  
IN WHOM WILL WE PUT OUR TRUST?**

**“So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them.  
For the Lord your God will personally go ahead of you.  
He will neither fail you nor abandon you.” –Deuteronomy 31:6**

*Now, return to the Journey Page and watch the worship video of Way Maker to be reminded of who he is and how he can be trusted.*