TAKE away

Tell about a time when you could have been called the wise one.
Tell about a time when you weren't so wise.

Why do you think the wise men we called wise men?

What sparked their giving of gifts to Jesus?

How have you used Christianity to get your way?

Why is the coming of Jesus something that greatly disturbs people?

How can the authority of the Bible be strengthened in your life?

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Spiritual Disciplines

(See Richard Foster, Celebration of Discipline)

Inward Disciplines

Meditation – Be still, and quiet, and know God is God
Prayer – Conversation with God as with a friend
Fasting – Deny self some right for a time to focus the mind
Study – Concentrate on material that can transform

Outward Disciplines

Simplicity – Detach, let go, un-clutter, find freedom
Solitude – Spend a chunk of time alone focus on God
Submission – Let go of always needing to get your way
Service – Do something ordinary to serve another

Corporate Disciplines

Confession – Admit we are all sinners together
Worship –The human response to divine initiative
Guidance –Allow corporate authority to guide the individual
Celebration – God is our Savior rejoice together

Other Boosts to Spiritual Growth

Memorization of Scripture
Good Books or Film
Visiting Bible lands
Spiritual Poetry
Mentorship of a spiritual friend
Time in nature
Small group fellowships
Singing spiritual songs
Acting/Drama

Try as many tools for spiritual development as possible. Those that work for you, continue; those that don't lay aside and try another tool. You may come back to one of those set aside at a future time when it is just what speaks to you.

EXPERIMENT and GROW SPIRITUALLY!

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