



Proverbs 3

Trust in the Lord with All Your Heart

My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments,² for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you. ³ Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. ⁴ So you will find favor and good success^[a] in the sight of God and man.⁵ Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.⁶ In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.⁷ Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil.⁸ It will be healing to your flesh^[b] and refreshment^[c] to your bones.⁹ Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce;¹⁰ then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.¹¹ My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline or be weary of his reproof,¹² for the Lord reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights. Blessed Is the One Who Finds Wisdom ¹³ Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding,¹⁴ for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold.¹⁵ She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her.¹⁶ Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor.¹⁷ Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.¹⁸ She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called blessed.¹⁹ The Lord by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding he established the heavens; ²⁰ by his knowledge the deeps broke open, and the clouds drop down the dew. ²¹ My son, do not lose sight of these— keep sound wisdom and discretion, ²² and they will be life for your soul and adornment for your neck.²³ Then you will walk on your way securely, and your foot will not stumble. ²⁴ If you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet. ²⁵ Do not be afraid of sudden terror or of the ruin^[d] of the wicked, when it comes,²⁶ for the Lord will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being caught.²⁷ Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due,^[e] when it is in your power to do it.²⁸ Do not say to your neighbor, “Go, and come again, tomorrow I will give it”—when you have it with you.²⁹ Do not plan evil against your neighbor, who dwells trustingly beside you.³⁰ Do not contend with a man for no reason, when he has done you no harm.³¹ Do not envy a man of violence and do not choose any of his ways,³² for the devious person is an abomination to the Lord, but the upright are in his confidence.³³ The Lord's curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the dwelling of the righteous.³⁴ Toward the scorners he is scornful, but to the humble he gives favor.^[f]³⁵ The wise will inherit honor, but fools get^[g] disgrace.

Prayer Journal

Devotion

How great is it that God does not expect us to do life alone? He has a plan in place for us. He knows what's best for us well before we know. He doesn't say go on and figure it out and we'll catch up later on. If we trust in him as verses 5-7 describe how can we possibly have fear for tomorrow? Verses 13-20 is written so beautifully, and can speak to all of us. Wisdom is described as more precious than jewels. How often do we think about wisdom like that? Personally, I can say I don't think about wisdom like that. But when you think of wisdom as the guidance God gives us how can it not be more precious than jewels? Wouldn't we rather have God give us the answers we desire over a handful of jewels? As educators you look to give wisdom through your teaching and love for your students. That's the same love God and his guidance gives us daily when we allow him to work in our life. When we choose to let God be in control, how much more wisdom can we gain, versus when we rely only on what we know?

Prayer: Papa God, help us gain wisdom through reading your Word, and opening our hearts and minds up to you. Direct us in your ways so we can show others your love. Amen.