

## **Bible Study: Proverbs 3**

### **Title: “Trusting God from the Inside Out”**

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#### **1. Author & Context**

- **Author:** Solomon
  - **Setting:** A father giving life-shaping wisdom to his son
  - **Theme of Chapter 3:** Trusting God, living with integrity, and experiencing His guidance
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#### **2. Key Scripture (Written Out)**

##### **Proverbs 3:3–6**

“Let not mercy and truth forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart, and so find favor and high esteem in the sight of God and man.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding;  
in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.”

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#### **3. Main Teaching Points**

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## **Point 1: Build Your Life on Mercy and Truth (vv. 3–4)**

### **Main Truth:**

Godly character is the foundation for a guided life.

### **Breakdown:**

- **Mercy** = Compassion, loyalty, grace
- **Truth** = Integrity, faithfulness, honesty

### **Commands:**

- *Bind them around your neck* → Make them visible
- *Write them on your heart* → Make them internal

### **Result:**

- Favor with God
- Respect from people

### **Application:**

- Your character determines your credibility
- Integrity and compassion should define you everywhere

### **Supporting Scripture:**

- Colossians 3:12

“Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness...”

## **Sticky Quote:**

*“What you carry in your heart will show up in your life.”*

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## **Point 2: Trust God Completely (v. 5)**

**“Trust in the Lord with all your heart...”**

### **Main Truth:**

God calls for **full trust**—not partial trust.

### **Key Insight:**

- Trust is not:
  - Occasional
  - Conditional
- It is:
  - Total
  - Relational

**“Lean not on your own understanding”**

- Your perspective is limited
- God’s perspective is eternal

### **Application:**

- Stop trying to control everything
- Trust God even when it doesn’t make sense

### **Supporting Scripture:**

- Isaiah 55:8

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts...”

**Sticky Quote:**

*“If you only trust God when it makes sense, you’re not really trusting Him.”*

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**Point 3: Acknowledge God in Everything (v. 6a)**

**“In all your ways acknowledge Him...”**

**Main Truth:**

God wants involvement in **every area of your life.**

**What it means to acknowledge God:**

- Invite Him into decisions
- Seek His direction
- Submit your plans

**Not Just:**

- Big decisions
- Crisis moments

**But Also:**

- Daily routines
- Relationships

- Work and leadership

**Application:**

- Pray before decisions
- Filter choices through God's Word

**Supporting Scripture:**

- Matthew 6:33

“Seek first the kingdom of God...”

**Sticky Quote:**

*“If God isn't in it, you shouldn't be either.”*

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**Point 4: God Will Direct Your Path (v. 6b)**

**“He shall direct your paths.”**

**Main Truth:**

When you trust and acknowledge God, **He leads your life.**

**Meaning:**

- God makes your path:
  - Straight
  - Clear
  - Purposeful

## **Important Insight:**

- Direction doesn't always mean ease
- It means **alignment with God's will**

## **Application:**

- Trust the process even when the path feels uncertain
- Stay obedient—God handles direction

## **Supporting Scripture:**

- Psalm 37:23

“The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord...”

## **Sticky Quote:**

*“God doesn't just guide your steps—He orders them.”*

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## **4. Major Themes**

### **1. Character Precedes Direction**

- Who you are matters before where you go

### **2. Trust Requires Surrender**

- You can't control and trust at the same time

### **3. God Wants Full Access**

- Not partial involvement—complete surrender

## 4. Direction Follows Dependence

- When you rely on God, He leads clearly
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## 5. Life Application

### Reflection Questions

1. Is my life marked by mercy and truth consistently?
  2. Where am I leaning on my own understanding right now?
  3. Am I inviting God into every area of my life—or just parts?
  4. Do I trust God even when I don't understand His direction?
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### Action Steps

- **Daily:** Pray, “God, I trust You with everything today.”
  - **Decisions:** Pause and seek God before acting
  - **Character:** Choose integrity and compassion consistently
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## 6. Teaching Outline (Quick Use)

**Title:** *Trusting God from the Inside Out*

1. Build Your Life on Mercy and Truth
  2. Trust God Completely
  3. Acknowledge God in Everything
  4. Follow His Direction
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**7. Big Idea**

**“When you trust God fully and live with integrity, He faithfully directs your life.”**