



Sermon Title: Pastoral Passages week 5

Sermon Title: Radically Trusting God

Date: 8/7/2022

Proverbs 3:5-6

In Proverbs 3, Solomon, the author, is sharing the many benefits and warnings communicated through God's wisdom. It gives us the challenge to:

BIG IDEA: Trust God more than your own instincts.

Proverbs 3:5-6 points to the ways trust is developed:

1. Trusting God

Begins in your heart, Expands to your decisions, Deepens your relationship with God

As Jesus trusted the Father in every aspect of his torture, crucifixion, death, and resurrection: We can have confidence in him at all times: in times of trouble, temptation, and darkness: think of it; all power and strength are in him to help. To **TRUST GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART** is to have confidence in him with all of your feelings, your will, your intellect, and confidence in Him from the center of everything you are. To love God with your whole heart is to allow him to direct and control every aspect of who you are and who you are going to be.

Then, the next development is when you **TRUST GOD IN YOUR DECISIONS:** It's OK to say "NO" to your own thoughts.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;

Once you recklessly trust God – it is easier to throw away your own beliefs that contradict God's revelation to us. The English word "AND" assumes that once you Trust God, you will no longer use your own perceptions as a crutch or something to trust. Trust God – not yourself or what you think you know, or have learned, or feel or society tells you is OK.

Trust God more than your own instincts. TRUST GOD because **IT DEEPENS YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD**. Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways, acknowledge him

In every road you take, in all your life, in every action, not splitting your life between public and faith – in ALL YOUR WAYS! You are in relationship with Him. That's what acknowledging Him is - an all-encompassing relationship where you know him, see him, and desire his instruction and the constant guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Look for Him/ follow his instruction/ Live God's wisdom

TRUST GOD and see

2. The Rewards for Trusting God

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways, acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

The first important truth to grab hold of is that God himself causes the rewards. The life laid out before you can be messy, but if you trust God, he does the work to smooth out your life, the daily walk of your life. The idea of your path being straight is more than directional; it is the clearing of obstacles. Your life is evened out; it is right with God, it's not mountainous, not cavernous, and not like a switchback traveling back and forth – when you Trust God and his ways, you will be confident of your progress towards him and not away. Trust God is moving and working for the good of your relationship with him.

When you learn to trust God instinctively and completely, you are forever set free from the prisons of worry, fear, doubt, concern, life, death, illness, injury, and total freedom! You may *visit* these places now and again, but you will not be *imprisoned* by them because you trust God implicitly to be true, trustworthy, reliable, keeping his promises, and desiring his perfection for you now and into the future.

Train your heart to trust God, especially when you are visited by fear or trouble.

Discussion Questions:

- **What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?**
- **Describe an area of your life where you are trusting God completely.**
- **How would you counsel someone who is going through a very difficult time trusting God?**
- **What would it take for you to trust God with every aspect of your life – the good and the difficult?**
- **Has there ever been a time in your life when you did not trust God to bring you through a situation? Explain**
- **Have you ever felt like God has failed you? Did you overcome that view? If so – How?**