

# The Path of Trust

January 20, 2026

**Proverbs 3:5–6** *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.*

Trust is not passive. It's not a feeling. It's a posture of surrender that says, "Lord, You lead and I'll follow." **Proverbs 3:5–6** calls us to trust God with all our heart, not the parts we feel comfortable releasing. It challenges us to stop leaning on our own understanding—our logic, our plans, our timelines—and instead acknowledge Him in every step. When we do, God doesn't just walk with us... He directs us.

**Psalms 32:8** reinforces this promise. God Himself says, "*I will instruct you... I will guide you with My eye.*" That means He sees what we cannot. He knows what we do not. And He leads us along paths we would never choose on our own—but paths that ultimately shape us, refine us, and prepare us for greater purpose.

I experienced this truth in a fresh way during a recent controlled burn training with the forestry department. They placed a drip torch in my hands and taught me how fire—when used with wisdom and intention—protects forests, restores ecosystems, and prevents future destruction. A prescribed fire isn't random. It's not reckless. It's purposeful. It burns away what is dead, dangerous, or overgrown so new life can flourish.

As I stood there learning how to start a fire on purpose, the Lord spoke to my heart: "This is what trust looks like. You obey. I direct. You strike the match. I control the flame." God is the original Firestarter. He knows exactly where to apply heat in our lives—not to harm us, but to free us. Just like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, God doesn't always keep us out of the fire. But He always steps into it with us. And the flames that were meant to destroy them only destroyed what had them bound.

That's what trust produces. That's what surrender ignites. That's what obedience unlocks. In our ministry I've watched God take small acts of trust and turn them into wildfires of hope. When we acknowledge Him in all our ways, He directs our paths into places where the Gospel spreads, needs are met, and lives are restored. Church, this is our calling: To trust Him fully. To surrender completely. To let Him burn away what must go and ignite what must come alive.

When we trust Him with all our heart, He guides us with His eye. When we acknowledge Him in all our ways, He directs our paths. And when we obey, His fire spreads and brings healing, clarity, and new growth to our community.

Prayer: Lord, teach us to trust You with all our hearts. Burn away what needs to go, and ignite what needs to come alive. Direct our paths, guide us with Your eye, and make us Firestarter's for Your kingdom. In Jesus' name, amen.

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