

## **Embrace the Journey4 “Embracing Your Life”**

Our life is a gift from God. And in that complex journey of ups and downs, we need to remember that He makes it work together for good...our good and His good. And just as He was there in the beginning, and now in the middle of this journey; we should have learned by now that we can trust Him to write the best ending as well. Our lives may best be measured by what He teaches us rather than by the events of life themselves. So rather than settling in on enduring our lives, we should step up and embrace this God-given journey! Embrace whatever life He has gifted you with and live out each day fully engaged!

### ***Proverbs 3:5-6 NAS***

*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 your paths straight.*

-Familiar verses perhaps to those who grew up in church, but they rest in a larger body of truth that is worth seeing. Let me read Proverbs 3:

### ***Proverbs 3:1- 35 NAS***

*1 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 Do not let kindness and truth leave you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart.*

*4 So you will find favor and good repute 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 your paths straight.*

*7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and turn away from evil.*

*8 It will be healing to your body And refreshment to your bones.*

*9 Honor the LORD from your wealth And from the first of all your produce;*

*10 So your barns will be filled with plenty And your vats will overflow with new wine.*

*11 My son, do not reject the discipline of the LORD Or loathe His reproof,*

*12 For whom the LORD loves He reproveth, Even as a father corrects the son in whom he delights.*

*13 How blessed is the man who finds wisdom And the man who gains understanding.*

*14 For her profit is better than the profit of silver And her gain better than fine gold.*

*15 She is more precious than jewels; And nothing you desire compares with her.*

*16 Long life is in her right hand; In her left hand are riches and honor.*

*17 Her ways are pleasant ways And all her paths are peace.*

*18 She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her, And happy are all who hold her fast.*

*19 The LORD by wisdom founded the earth, By understanding He established the heavens.*

*20 By His knowledge the deeps were broken up And the skies drip with dew.*

*21 My son, let them not vanish from your sight; Keep sound wisdom and discretion,*

*22 So they will be life to your soul And adornment to your neck.*

*23 Then you will walk in your way securely And your foot will not stumble.*

*24 When you lie down, you will not be afraid; When you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.*

*25 Do not be afraid of sudden fear Nor of the onslaught 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, When it is in your power to do it.*

*28 Do not say to your neighbor, "Go, and come back, And tomorrow I will give it," When you have it with you.*

*29 Do not devise harm against your neighbor, While he lives securely beside you.*

*30 Do not contend with a man without cause, If 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 are an abomination to the LORD; But He is intimate with the upright.*

*33 The curse of the LORD is on the house of the wicked, But He blesses the dwelling of the righteous.*

*34 Though He scoffs at the scoffers, Yet He gives grace to the afflicted.*

*35 The wise will inherit honor, But fools display dishonor.*

-King Solomon is the writer of these inspired words. As a man who was infused by God with wisdom, he tells his son the value of Godly wisdom. He is not simply promoting an education, but speaks of embracing a life that acknowledges and trusts God.

-Verses 5 and 6 of this proverb, encapsulates the core of his loving advice.

***5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding.***

***6 In all your ways acknowledge (know Him or own Him) Him, And He will make your paths straight.***

Matthew Henry's Commentary:

"We must trust in the Lord with all our hearts, believing he is able and wise to do what is best. Those who know themselves, find their own understandings a broken reed, which, if they lean upon, will fail. Do not design any thing but what is lawful, and beg God to direct thee in every case, though it may seem quite plain. In all our ways that prove pleasant, in which we gain our point, we must acknowledge God with thankfulness. In all our ways that prove uncomfortable, and that are hedged up with thorns, we must acknowledge him with submission. It is promised, He shall direct thy paths; so that thy way shall be safe and good, and happy at last."

1. **Trust God completely, not your limited understanding.** These are opposing methods.
2. **In everything you do in life, do for and with Him.**
3. **Then, He will direct our life path.**

**\*Dangers:**

1. We are constantly moving back and forth between opposing faiths. We trust in Him then we trust in us. When things get bad we default back to the drivers seat.

2. We say we are "living for God", but our will, dreams and plans are driving the decisions. We don't wait on the Lord.

3. We have our own app for directions.

**Bottom Line - Seize everyday and embrace your life in Christ; He already has!**