



Connect Discussion Guide
12/27/20 Message | Chuck Sackett | Proverbs 3:1-12

Hard times call for a relentless faithfulness.

Key Scriptures:

Proverbs 3:1–12

*My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments,
for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you.*

*Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck;
write them on the tablet of your heart.*

*So you will find favor and good success
in the sight of God and man.*

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

*Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.
It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.*

*Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce;
then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.*

*My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline or be weary of his reproof,
for the LORD reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.*

Message Highlights:

- God's voice is in his Word but is experienced in wisdom and in community.
- Faithfulness is a decision that impacts every area of our life.
- The opposite of reliance on God is self-reliance, which betrays an inner selfishness.
- Now is not the time to relent from diligence—we can't let hardship or hope deter us from intentional acts of faithfulness.
- Deciding to not forget God's Word is more than a mental exercise of memory – it's also connected to a life of obedience in which one keeps the commands of God
- Relationship with God makes faithfulness to Him easier.
- "Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God." - Corrie Ten Boom

Conversation Starter:

- What is your New Year's Resolution?

Discuss the Message:

1. What acts of obedience do you intend to press into in the New Year as you strive to “not forget God’s word”?
2. Have you been diligent in engaging in acts of faithfulness this Christmas season? What has distracted you from this in the recent months?
3. Do you have the tendency to rely on yourself rather than the Lord? How do you guard against being wise only in your own eyes, so as to turn away from self reliance and rather, to the true source of wisdom?
4. Are there certain parts of your day you tend to forget to acknowledge the Lord? Talk about those times and brainstorm a strategy to remember God in those moments.
5. Corrie Ten Boom said, “Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God.” Reflect on one or two specific “unknowns” God led you through this year, and how his faithfulness remained through those experiences.

Pray:

- *Father in heaven, thank you for your steadfast love and faithfulness toward us. Help us by your Spirit to not merely hear your words, but to be obedient to you when you speak. We trust in you. We want to be good stewards of all that you have entrusted to us, in both the ups and downs of life. We ask that you would guide us in your wisdom that we might honor you in all that we do. Amen.*