

February 22

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NKJV) "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."

I had a dream the other night that disturbed me. In the dream, I was a guest speaker at a church. However, I walked around that church as if I were the most important person to enter its doors. I acted in some questionable ways, but I knew I could talk myself out any situation because of who I was. When I woke, I was disturbed by the idea that, in the dream, I was so arrogant. I decided not to mention the dream to Carol because I had taken it personally. I went to work, but the dream continued to plague me. I would get busy and forget about it, only to have it return. With each thought the weight of that dream increased, but I felt I could handle it. Later that night, as we were upstairs working on making some shirts, I felt a strong urge to tell Carol. I started only to stop myself. There was no need. Finally, I could stand it no longer. I shared the dream with Carol, and immediately the weight lifted.

Several things happened quite rapidly after that. First, Carol immediately said the dream had nothing to do with me. Instead, it was a warning of the danger of not fearing the Lord. Plus, we are to be aware of the arrogance of those who show no fear because they can be dangerous. As soon as she said this, I knew she was right, and I wondered why I had waited so long to tell her about the dream. If I had told her that morning, I could have saved myself from a troubling day. Second, the Lord gave me the answer as to why I did not. I was leaning on my own understanding. All day He had been urging me to tell because He knew the best path for me. He knew sharing the dream and opening it to the light would push aside the misgivings and worries. Yet, I felt I knew better. Incidents like this bring the scriptures to life for me. I have quoted today's verse many times, yet I had failed to apply it properly. Too often when we lean on our own understanding, we keep things inside of us, trying to hide them from others, when God, in His wisdom, wants us to share them and bring them into His marvelous light. Sometimes the "weight" we feel is not from the world; instead, it is from the Lord our God turning us around and directing us onto the right path where the light brings understanding and peace.