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Placing Our Trust Where It Belongs (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Proverbs 3:5-6, Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

In this passage we'll see that no matter what we're going through we'll benefit from placing our trust where it belongs, in the Lord. Let's look at 3 ways to practically place our trust in God.

#1 Direct our confidence toward God in PRAYER:

Proverbs 3:5a, Trust in the Lord with all your heart...

- Often instead of directing our confidence to God, we focus on the problem until it feels bigger than God.
- Philippians 4:6-7, Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer & petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
- I can go to God in prayer today because Jesus made a way: Ephesians 2:18, For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

#2 Doubt we're enough to fix it in a spirit of HUMILITY:

Proverbs 3:5b, and lean not on your own understanding;

- Human understanding is subject to fickle emotion and subtle sin that can cloud our best path forward.
- Mankind's great sin is to live & think independently of God.

- Jeremiah 9:23-24a, 23 This is what the Lord says: "Let not the wise boast of their wisdom or the strong boast of their strength or the rich boast of their riches, 24 but let the one who boasts boast about this: that they have the understanding to know me..."
- It makes sense for me to doubt myself a bit because in Christ..."are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Colossians 2:3)

#3 Decide to obey God's Word as our TRUTH:

Proverbs 3:6a, in all your ways submit to him,

- Where does truth come from? A thought? A feeling? A friend? Culture? It comes directly from God!
- "It is not the things which I do not understand in the Bible which trouble me, but the things which I do understand." (Mark Twain)
- Obeying is a choice to not just to believe in God, but also to follow Him!
- Matthew 4:19, Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."
- A disciple is someone who is (1) following Christ, (2) being changed by Christ and is (3) committed to the mission of Christ.
- Deciding to obey His Word is shown in seeking truth by reading the Bible, not just to learn it, but to live it.
- We can submit to God because Jesus leads us gently: Matthew 11:29-30, Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

When we have worry, fear, & anxiety we should:

- (1) Direct our confidence toward God in PRAYER.
- (2) Doubt we're enough to fix this in a spirit of HUMILITY.

(3) Decide to obey God's Word as our TRUTH.

and God will...

Determine what's best for us in His PROVIDENCE!

Proverbs 3:6b, and He will make your paths straight.

- As we trust in the Lord, He will place us on a good path that leads to peace, joy and virtuous living and He will keep us from paths of sin and destruction.
- It can be a fearful thing to let God direct our path: Jeremiah 10:23, *...people's lives are not their own; it is not for them to direct their steps.*
- We can walk the path God planned for us because Jesus will never leave us: Matthew 28:20, *...I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

If you are struggling with fear, anxiety or worry, would you please text "Prayer" to (951)425-4425 so we can have a pastor call, or meet with you, to pray?