



# Proverbs to Live By #1

(Proverbs 3:5-6)

## *Introduction:*

1. Some of the best selling books seem to be little, short books filled with wise sayings.
2. People have always enjoyed short, wise sayings of great truth.
3. Proverbs provides us with short, wise sayings of great truths.

## **I. Trust In The Lord...**

- A. The word trust means security, to attach one's self, to confide in, to rely on.
- B. We are to set our hope and our confidence in God (Psalms 39:7).
- C. Our trust in God need to be from the heart – complete (Proverbs 3:5).
  1. The heart is the seat of:
    - a. Understanding (Matthew 13:15),
    - b. Reasoning (Mark 2:6),
    - c. Affections (Luke 24:32),
    - d. Faith (Romans 10:10),
- D. (Psalms 37:3,4)
- E. Just as we love God with everything (Matthew 22:37), we must trust God with everything.
- F. (Daniel 6)

## **II. Lean Not On Your...**

- A. The word for lean means to depend on, to find support in.
- B. We are not to rely on our understanding, but on God's.
  1. God's ways are higher than our ways (Isaiah 55:9).
  2. God has a plan. We may not understand the plan, but He has one.
    - a. (Romans 8:28)
    - b. (Daniel 3)
- C. Our reliance, support must be on God not ourselves – “He who finds support in his own heart is a fool.”

## **III. In All Your Ways...**

- A. In all your activities, all your pursuits, all your relationships acknowledge (know) God.
  1. The word for acknowledge goes deeper than just knowing, it conveys the idea of having fellowship with.
- B. We need to know God outside of this building, in all our activities, all our pursuits, all our dealings and all our relationships.
- C. Self-dependency and self-reliance will result in our separation from God (Isaiah 59:2)
- D. Acknowledging (knowing) God will involve your commitment to Him in all your ways (Proverbs 16:3).

1. To acknowledge God means to consult His will, seek His direction, and recognize His authority.

**IV. And He Shall...**

- A. If the requirements are met (verses 5-6a), the Lord will make our paths straight.
- B. The idea behind this verse is that the Lord will remove the obstacles which slow progress.
- C. The path will be a path of righteousness (Psalms 23:3).
- D. If the Lord directs our path it means that He is the guide in our life. So therefore we must look to the map, because it contains His directions.

*Conclusion:*

1. Trusting in the Lord means that we are making a commitment to God to follow Him and to turn our lives over to His service so He will direct our paths.
2. It is a denial of self and a cross-carrying commitment (Matthew 16:24).
3. Are you willing to make that commitment?