

“Longevity, Prosperity, & Peace”

Proverbs 3

1. Do you still make New Years resolutions? Why or Why not?

2. What is an area of your life where you made a significant change? How did you do that? Did it last? Why or Why not?

My child, never forget the things I have taught you.

Store my commands in your heart.

If you do this, you will live many years, and your life will be satisfying.

Hold onto Loyalty and Kindness.

Never let loyalty and kindness leave you! Tie them around your neck as a reminder. Write them deep within your heart.

Then you will find favor with both God and people, and you will earn a good reputation.

Trust God with all your heart.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart;

do not depend on your own understanding.

Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

Don't assume you know it all.

Don't be impressed with your own wisdom.

Instead, fear the LORD and turn away from evil.

Then you will have healing for your body and strength for your bones.

Honor God with everything you own.

Honor the LORD with your wealth

and with the best part of everything you produce.

Then he will fill your barns with grain,

and your vats will overflow with good wine.

Don't resent discipline.

My child, don't reject the LORD's discipline,

and don't be upset when he corrects you.

For the LORD corrects those he loves,

just as a father corrects a child in whom he delights.

Search for wisdom.

Joyful is the person who finds wisdom, the one who gains understanding.

For wisdom is more profitable than silver,

and her wages are better than gold.

Wisdom is more precious than rubies;

nothing you desire can compare with her.

She offers you long life in her right hand, and riches and honor in her left.

She will guide you down delightful paths; all her ways are satisfying.

Wisdom is a tree of life to those who embrace her;

happy are those who hold her tightly.

By wisdom the LORD founded the earth;

*by understanding he created the heavens.
By his knowledge the deep fountains of the earth burst forth,
and the dew settles beneath the night sky.
My child, don't lose sight of common sense and discernment.
Hang on to them, for they will refresh your soul.
They are like jewels on a necklace.
They keep you safe on your way, and your feet will not stumble.
You can go to bed without fear; you will lie down and sleep soundly.*

3. Proverbs 3 says Wisdom is more valuable than Silver, Gold, or rubies. How are you searching for wisdom for your everyday life? Where do most people search for wisdom?

Have no fear.

*You need not be afraid of sudden disaster
or the destruction that comes upon the wicked,
for the LORD is your security.
He will keep your foot from being caught in a trap.*

Never walk away from anyone who deserves help.

*Do not withhold good from those who deserve it
when it's in your power to help them.
If you can help your neighbor now, don't say,
"Come back tomorrow, and then I'll help you."*

Don't live with a chip on your shoulder.

*Don't plot harm against your neighbor,
for those who live nearby trust you.
Don't pick a fight without reason, when no one has done you harm.*

Do not envy the wicked.

*Don't envy violent people or copy their ways.
Such wicked people are detestable to the LORD,
but he offers his friendship to the godly.*

4. Re-read Proverbs 3 and the principles of Longevity, Prosperity, and Peace. Which of the areas listed is in need of the most work in your life? What would it look like for you if you were thriving in that area?

SO WHAT?

*The LORD curses the house of the wicked,
but he blesses the home of the upright.
The LORD mocks the mockers but is gracious to the humble.
The wise inherit honor, but fools are put to shame!*

5. Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18. I would add to this list "Never give up!" This life is filled with love and joy, but at the same time will never cease to be challenging, plagued by heartbreak and pain. How do we not focus on our troubles, but fix our gaze on eternal things?

6. What one thing can you begin to do this week to take action in your chosen area of improvement. How can your Growth Group help you?