

I. Introduction.

The book of Proverbs uses the words of path or way, nearly 100 times. It keeps encouraging us to get wisdom, seek wisdom, pursue wisdom and the *fruit* of wisdom is a long life, needs met, a right relationship with God and with others.

This morning I want to take a look at those two very well-known and much loved verses in 3:5,6. There are good reasons why these two verses are so loved. These are great verses to apply in these bewildering days in which we live.

I. Wholehearted trust- 3:5a

A. It starts out with that good theme, trusting the Lord. Someone said that he counted 365 ‘*fear not’s*’ in the Bible, one for each day of the year! This is because we as people tend to be fearful so much of the time. Of course, the antidote to all this fear is to trust the Lord. But note, it says to do this with all your _____. God is calling for a total commitment here, not a half-hearted one. 1 Chron. 28:9. God loves wholehearted people! So do we! Who likes a half-hearted baseball player, employee or spouse?

B. Do we trust God in small things, in big things? Let’s turn it around, Can God trust us? The first of 3 conditions listed in these 2 verses is: wholehearted trust.

II. Don’t forget God. 5b

A. Trust and lean are very similar words. We are not to rely on human wisdom for that is not enough. The main point here is repeated in vs. 7, ‘*don’t be wise in your own eyes.*’ We tend to be self-reliant, thinking we can do it on our own and we forget about God and seeking His wisdom.

B. The smartest people in the world still need to fully trust in God. Actually, the wisest people in the world are those who do trust God in each and every situation.

However, it says don’t lean on your own understanding; it does not say ‘*don’t use it.*’ Some people take it that way. God gave us brains to use. Please use them. But let your brain be guided by His wisdom, as found in His Good Book. Christianity is the most reasonable belief system in the world; God never asks you to check your brains at the door. Our culture does that, but we don’t.

Let us trust God and His wisdom realizing that His answers are way _____ than anything we could have come up with. So, the second condition here is to ask God for wisdom.

III. Enjoy His company. 6a

‘*In all your ways acknowledge Him*’, what does that mean? In Bible contexts, the word has a rich meaning. It means not just ‘*to be aware of but also having fellowship with*’. It means that wherever we go, notice it says, ‘*in all your ways,*’ we are to be aware of God’s presence and to be enjoying His company. A third condition here is: remember that God is with you and enjoy His company.

IV. Then God will guide you. 6b

A. Now we get to the promise part of these two verses. It says God will make your ways straight. Straight here is in contrast to the crooked ways of the wicked. And it refers to God removing the obstacles in your way, at the right time. It also carries the idea that He will help you accomplish what His calling is for you. You will be able to fulfill the _____ God has for you to do.

B. I think we can see again why these two verses are such popular verses. They are so good and there is so much in them when you take a closer look. I want to encourage you to memorize these verses and in this new week, put them to good use!