

To Lean—Or Not to Lean?

That Is the Question!

Proverbs 3:1–12 with the main **emphasis** on 5–8

TRUST is **absolutely** ESSENTIAL to finding & following God's will!

Without trust, our lives  confusion & chaos

Three steps that encourage us to TRUST the Lord:

- 1— The 1st step involves **obtaining godly guidance!** (3:1–4)
—The only way to know God's will is to study His Word!
- 2— The 2nd step involves **obeying godly guidance!** (3:5–8)
—The only way to follow God's will is to obey His Word!
- 3— The 3rd step involves **owning godly guidance!** (3:9–12)
—God desires that His people honor & respect Him!

Three principles & three life lessons related to TRUSTING the Lord:

- ① Our most valuable lesson is **learning** to _____ on God. {3:5}

TRUST = to put oneself wholly at the mercy of another;
reclining against something &
relying on it totally for support

- Notice the CONTRAST: **rely, rest, recline** on God's support
BUT DON'T **lean** on our own understanding

A Lesson to Learn:

TRUSTING God:

1. Saves us from sin
2. Sets us apart from our culture/society
3. Strengthens our faith

- ② We need to learn how to _____ God's authority! {3:6}

ACKNOWLEDGE = to be aware of God's presence, power,
promises, & provision for our welfare
& to submit to His sovereign authority

—Notice the RESULT: God will make our paths straight! He will guide
& direct us. He will reveal His perfect will for what is best for us

A Lesson to Learn:

TRUSTING God provides us with the **privilege** to experience/enjoy
God's guidance thru-out life & escape temptation

- ③ God deserves our _____ & _____. {3:7-8}

The _____ of HUMILITY: a specific warning against
being **wise in our own eyes**

The _____ of HUMILITY: **Fear the Lord & turn
away from evil**

The _____ of HUMILITY: **personal peace, well-being &
refreshment to our bones**

A Lesson to Learn:

TRUSTING God gives us:

1. a healthy **respect** for God
2. A sense of **reverence** for God's rule
3. A **receptiveness** for God's Word