

A Fruitful Life

Proverbs 3:5-12

Proverbs 3:5-12 (NASB)

⁵“Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding.

⁶In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.

⁷Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and turn away from evil.

⁸It will be healing to your body And refreshment to your bones.

⁹Honor the LORD from your wealth And from the first of all your produce;

¹⁰So your barns will be filled with plenty And your vats will overflow with new wine.

¹¹My son, do not reject the discipline of the LORD Or loathe His reproof,

¹²For whom the LORD loves He reproveth, Even as a father *corrects* the son in whom he delights.”

God has created us with a longing to know that our presence in this world counts. He also designed us to find the fulfillment of that desire through His Son Jesus Christ.

Dependence on God is central to an abundant life. Trusting Him with all our heart means giving Him control over our families, finances, jobs, and everything else. Today’s passage emphasizes how essential trust is to a fruitful life: we are cautioned against being wise in our own eyes and warned—*twice*—not to lean on our own understanding ([Proverbs 3:5, 7](#)).

Proverbs 3:5 (NASB)

⁵“Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding.”

Proverbs 3:7 (NASB)

⁷“Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and turn away from evil.”

When facing decisions, we can be tempted to gather information and choose the answer that looks right. But we can’t know all the facts or predict with certainty how others will respond. God, however, is omniscient. He “reads” hearts and perceives every thought; no aspect of our life escapes His notice ([1 Chronicles 28:9](#); [Psalms 11:4](#)), and He cares about everyone. That’s why He alone knows which decision is best for each situation.

1 Chronicles 28:9 (NASB)

⁹“As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve Him with a whole heart and a willing mind; for the LORD searches all hearts, and understands every intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will let you find Him; but if you forsake Him, He will reject you forever.”

Psalms 11:4 (NASB)

⁴“The LORD is in His holy temple; the LORD’S throne is in heaven; His eyes behold, His eyelids test the sons of men.”

The abundant life also involves acknowledging the Lord in all we do. Speaking about Him is just part of what it means to give Him recognition. As His children, we are to have a marked resemblance to our heavenly Father—in thoughts, attitudes, and actions. Our priorities are to reflect His, and our plans should fit with His purposes.

Life becomes fruitful as we surrender ourselves to the Lord and carry out His will. By allowing His Spirit to live through us ([Galatians 2:20](#)), we will find our lives characterized by significance and satisfaction.

Galatians 2:20 (NASB)

²⁰“I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.”