

“PRACTICAL BIBLICAL INSIGHT FOR PERSONAL VICTORIOUS LIVING”
PROVERBS 3:5,6

INTRO: When I was in Bible College one of my professors, Dr. Will Miller, who taught the class on Christian Life, encouraged us all to have a life's verse. With my excitement about being in Bible College and learning new verses, about every day I came up with a new life's verse. For a while, every time I went home to visit my parents, or even spoke with them by phone, I would share a **NEW LIFE'S VERSE** with them and finally one day Dad told me, **“GARY, SEEK GOD'S WILL ON A VERSE, SELECT IT AND STAY WITH IT.”** With that in mind, I selected **PROVERBS 3:5,6** as my life's passage 56 years ago and have held to it since. **PROVERBS 3:5,6** is very well known by Christians all around the world and sometimes it is so obvious that it is overlooked. But the concept of the text is truly very practical and applicable to our Christian living that **IT SHOULD NEVER BE OVERLOOKED**. So today, for a few minutes let's look at this very familiar passage of God's Word under the title of **“PRACTICAL BIBLICAL INSIGHT FOR PERSONAL VICTORIOUS LIVING.”**

I. A DIVINE COMMAND – VS. 5a

“TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL THINE HEART”

A. The Focus of the Command – **“IN THE LORD”**

1. The word **“LORD”** is the English translation of the Hebrew word **“YAWEH”** which means **“JEHOVAH”** which is one of the names for God in the Old Testament.
2. The name **“JEHOVAH”** means **“THE SELF-EXISTENT, ALL POWERFUL ETERNAL GOD WHO REVEALS HIMSELF THROUGH HIS ACTIONS.”**

B. The Fact of the Command

1. Found in the word **“TRUST”** that is the Hebrew word for the NT word **“FAITH”** which occurs 152 times in the OT scripture and has several applications meaning 1) To take refuge in (Ruth 2:12), 2) To lean upon (Psalm 56:3), 3) To roll over on (Psalm 22:8), 4) To stay focused upon (Job 33:14). **THE ALL POWERFUL LORD INVITES US TO DO THESE THINGS....IMAGINE!**

2. Found in the word **“HEART”** that is the Hebrew word that speaks of 1) Emotions, 2) Intellect, 3) Discernment, 4) Reflection, 5) Will.

THE APPLICATION: WE ARE COMMANDED TO FULLY DEPEND UPON THE LORD WITH EVERY ASPECT OF OUR SPIRITUAL BEING SEPARATED FROM PERSONAL DOUBT. THE ALL-POWERFUL LORD CAN AND WILL DO ALL THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE IF WE TRUST IN HIM TOTALLY.

II. A DIRECT CHARGE – VS. 5b

“LEAN NOT TO THINE OWN UNDERSTANDING”

A. The Meaning of the Words

1. **“Lean”** – To Rely Upon
2. **“Own”** – Our Personal Conceived Ideas
3. **“Understanding”** - Our Limited Knowledge of God's will and ways

B. The Measure of the Charge

1. To Recognize that Our own Understanding is Limited in doing God's will.
2. To Recognize that Our own Understanding is Blurred by personal fears and opinions.
3. To Recognize that Our own Understanding is Selfish in putting self-first.
4. To Recognize that Our own Understanding is Near-sighted, not being able to see the “big picture” that God has in mind.
5. To Recognize that Our own Understanding is Weak apart from God.
6. To Recognize that Our own Understanding is Stained by Sin.

THE APPLICATION: OUR OWN UNDERSTANDING WILL VOID GOD'S WILL IN EVERY ASPECT OF OUR LIVES

III. A DUTIFUL CONCERN – VS. 6a

“IN ALL THY WAYS ACKNOWLEDGE HIM”

A. The Meaning of the Words

1. “All” – Everything we face without exception – Every detail
2. “Ways” – The Course of our Life – Moment by moment
3. “Acknowledge” – To Know and to Understand God’s Person, Will and Way - Who He is, What He Expects and How He Operates.
4. “Him” – Jehovah God **THE SELF-EXISTENT, ALL POWERFUL, ETERNAL GOD WHO REVEALS HIMSELF THROUGH HIS ACTIONS.** Who will give us all we need to do His will in our lives.

B. The Measure of the Concern

1. Get to know God’s Will through His Word – Psalm 119:105
2. Get to know God’s Will through His Spirit – 1 John 2:27
3. Get to know God’s Will through Prayer – Jeremiah 33:3
4. Get to know God’s Will through Spiritual Fellowship – Hebrews 10:25

THE APPLICATION: GOD IS INTERESTED IN EVERYTHING WE DO IN LIFE AND THUS HE DESIRES TO BE A PART OF OUR EVERY PLAN, WITHOUT WHICH WE WILL GO AWAY FROM HIS WILL AND FOLLOW A SINFUL PATH.

IV. A DEFINITE CONCLUSION

“HE SHALL DIRECT THY PATHS”

A. The Condition of the Conclusion – As we follow the **DIVINE COMMAND**, accept the **DIRECT CHARGE**, and fulfill the **DUTIFUL CONCERN** of the text, God will direct our ways.

B. The Concept of the Conclusion – **GOD WILL MAKE STRAIGHT OUR WAYS, AND CLEAR AWAY ALL OBSTRUCTIONS IN ORDER TO ENABLE US TO GO FORWARD IN HIS WILL.**

THE APPLICATION: GOD WILL ALWAYS MAKE A WAY FOR US AS WE LIVE IN OBEDIENCE TO HIM.

LESSON AND APPLICATION

VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN LIVING IS OURS WHEN WE FOLLOW BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES DAILY...GOD WILL SEE TO IT.