



HOME GROUP QUESTIONS FROM SERMON 28th January 2024

WHOLE LIFE GUIDANCE

Proverbs 3 v1-18

1. WARNING: THREE THINGS YOU MUST NOT DO

1.1 FORGET God's commands

(v1) "My son, do not forget my teaching..."

Question 1: Why do we so easily forget God's commands? How do we help ourselves remember?

1.2 SELF-govern your life

(v5) "... do not lean on your own understanding"

Question 2: Can you think of a time in your life, when you thought you understood something, or knew the right thing to do, but it turned out to be much more complicated than you imagined?

1.3 DESPISE the Lord's discipline

(v11-12) "My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline
or be weary of his reproof,
12 for the Lord reproves him whom he loves,
as a father the son in whom he delights."

Question 3: How might we become weary of God's reproof?

2. INSPIRATION: FOUR UPWARD STEPS TOWARDS GUIDANCE

2.1 TRUST – completely

(v5) "Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not lean on your own understanding."

Question 4: Are you being called to trust God completely in a particular area of your life?

2.2 ACKNOWLEDGE – in all matters

(v6) "In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths."

Question 5: How might you acknowledge the Lord in everything?

2.3 HONOUR – with first fruits

(v9-10) "Honour the Lord with your wealth
and with the firstfruits of all your produce;
then your barns will be filled with plenty,
and your vats will be bursting with wine."

Question 6: How do we honour the Lord with our first fruits in a cost of living crisis?

2.4 OBEY – every command

(v1-2) “My son, do not forget my teaching,
but let your heart keep my commandments,
2 for length of days and years of life
and peace they will add to you.”

Question 7: How are we to understand the benefits of v2?

A PRAYER

Loving Lord, help me not forget your commands and try to self-govern my life. Protect my heart from silently despising the challenging spiritual opportunities you send my way. Help step forward and upwards towards you and your ways. Give me whole-hearted trust. Help me acknowledge you in everything. Show me how to honour you with my “first fruits” and help me find a way through any financial challenges I face. Grant me an obedient heart which embraces your guidance for the whole of my life, that I may walk your path of pleasantness and peace, now and evermore, Amen.